

# TOC H JOURNAL



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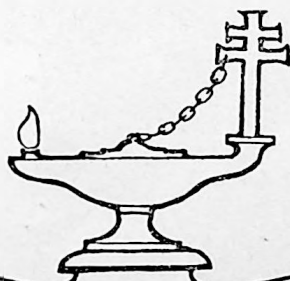
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VOLUME XVII.

NUMBER 6







## The Lane

The world is loud with marching feet  
As greed and fear meet, steel to steel,  
Yet I can walk this quiet lane  
And know that love is real.

When I am dust and all are dust  
Who scream and strut in pride or pain,  
A man like me will walk in peace  
Along this quiet lane.

Others will love, as I have loved,  
These happy fields, these summer skies,  
And others walk this quiet lane  
With wonder in their eyes.

More loudly in the ears of God  
Than all the trumpets of the kings  
There sounds the rustling of cool leaves,  
The song the blackbird sings.

A. G. C.

# AROUND THE MAP

TUBBY and his A.D.C., Peter le Mesurier, reached home from their Indian tour on May 12, and were welcomed at a lunch at 41, Trinity Square by members and friends in the City a few days later. Tubby and Peter, both in abounding health and spirits, gave a very brief account of their stewardship, and the lunch also took a Canadian turn, especially in view of the visit of our Patron and the Queen, the first visit in history of a reigning Sovereign to the Dominion. Michael Lubbock (late Chairman, Winnipeg Area) took the chair and the Right. Hon. H. B. Bennett (late Premier of Canada, a good

members at the Mission School at Crater for young Somalis and Arabs converted to the Christian faith. There are also a few Jewish lads at the school, and the writer remarks that it was "really marvellous to see Somalis, Arabs, and Jews, normally such bitter enemies, getting on so well together." The party went down to a deserted stretch of beach, made a fire and had a delightful moonlight picnic, after which they entertained each other by singing songs. The Group, which of necessity consists almost entirely of Service members, are hoping to get the use of a new room in the Soldiers', Sailors' and Air-men's Institute.

\* \* \* \*



Tubby (in flying kit) lands at Peshawar.

friend of Toc H) spoke. Continuous travel by land and sea and air have prevented the travellers from producing any account of their journey hitherto for the JOURNAL, but we shall publish some notes and some pictures next month.

\* \* \* \*

A letter from *Steamer Point Group, Aden*, tells of an evening spent by the

The constant transfer of Royal Air Force members from station to station makes the building up of stable units extremely difficult, but also has the effect of continually spreading Toc H to new places. Service members are often our best missionaries. Two R.A.F. members, for instance, transferred suddenly from Aboukir to Abu Sueir, have been largely instrumental in re-starting Toc H there. Four other members were discovered as well as six others who were interested and had attended meetings elsewhere. These twelve attended a meeting at Moascar, eleven miles away, at which Tubby, *en route* for India, was the chief guest. The Moascar members suggested that much would be gained by a temporary amalgamation and the cost of a fast car each Tuesday evening to convey the Abu-Sueir-ites to Moascar is shared, on the true family principle, by the Moascar men. Latest news is that the car has now been outgrown and that plans are being



made for the hire of a bus. "Some day," says our correspondent, "we may see a 'Canal Area' with Moascar as Area H.Q." Uncle Sam's Navy were recently entertained when the "*Saratoga*" was anchored in Lake Timsah.

\* \* \* \*

*Colombo Branch* continue unwearingly to welcome and entertain a wide variety of travellers on their lawful occasions across the world. Their recent visitors have included a number of Army members from the new troopship "*Ettrick*" on her maiden voyage to the Far East, a further party of nine "Little Brothers" on their way to Australia, and sixteen bell-boys from the "*Empress of Britain*." A steady improvement is reported in the spirit of the two clubs for Ceylonese boys with which the Branch are concerned. So many jigsaw puzzles have been made by the boys at one of them that it is anticipated that the demand for all Ceylon will soon be exceeded!

\* \* \* \*

*Gatooma Branch*, in Southern Rhodesia, recently raised enough money to purchase an ambulance for the municipality and in addition are themselves running it until the authorities are ready to take over. Already it has covered more than two thousand miles. It took them four months to raise the £435 required. They have also been organising functions in aid of the Czech Refugee Fund. The European population of Gatooma is approximately 800 and the Branch's lamp was lit for the first time last December at the Royal Albert Hall.

\* \* \* \*

There can be few places in the world where the refugee problem is so overwhelmingly urgent as in Shanghai, and the Toc H Branch there are doing their utmost to face up to its challenge both as a Branch and as individual Christians.

There are at present over 6,000 Jewish refugees in Shanghai and about 1,000 more are due to arrive each month from Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia and Italy; it is estimated that there will be 15,000 by the end of the year, most of them without funds or prospects. In addition there are huge camps of Chinese refugees. The financial problem raised is entirely beyond the ability of Shanghai to tackle by itself. Over \$500,000 have been received from abroad but in spite of the fact that the strictest economy is being exercised and living conditions are anything but satisfactory, this fund is already exhausted. *Shanghai Branch* are hard at work collecting clothing and furniture for the camps. The temporary adoption of children is another way of helping and the Branch are co-operating with the many different bodies working to meet the situation in this and other ways.

\* \* \* \*

Not long ago an account reached us of a meeting of the Toc H Branch at Loverna (Saskatchewan) which is probably unique in that the total population of the town is less than 200. Some of those present had come in to town by team from outlying farms a good many miles out, and although faced with long wintry drives home across the prairie seemed in no hurry to end the meeting, which lasted until 11.30 p.m. This Branch maintains a small park, Memorial Park, in the town. They are interested in Scout work and plan to establish a boys' club. Readers of "*The Linkmen*" (Part II) will remember that John Leader spent a happy evening with the Branch in this little prairie township which for four months of the year is cut off altogether by snow from the rest of the world.

\* \* \* \*

Geographical limitations seem to matter very little to many of our brother members

overseas. *Sherbrooke Group*, for instance, one of the most isolated units in the Montreal District, have recently shown a proper contempt for mere distance by taking on the job of attempting to establish a library for the extremely isolated community in the Magdalen Islands. These small islands are right in the middle of the Gulf of St. Lawrence between Prince Edward Island and Anticosti Island. (If you don't know where these are, do as we did and look them up on a map!).

\* \* \* \*

The Ceremony of Light is not easily translatable into other languages, and it is interesting to hear from *Lachine Group* in the Montreal District that it is occasionally conducted there in French, the language most commonly spoken in Montreal.

In Southern Africa it is by no means unusual for the ceremony to be taken in Afrikaans, and it has also been heard in German, both in Germany and in London. Apart from this we do not know of any other language into which it has been translated.

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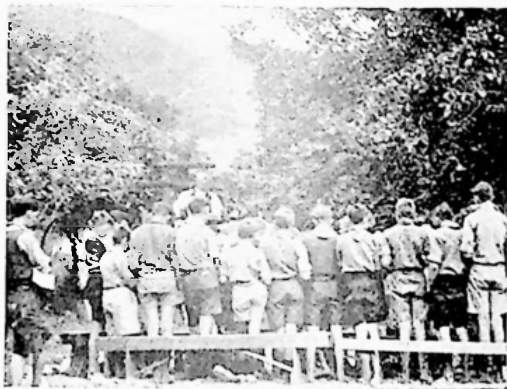
The Annual Report of *Kohat Branch* (India) contains among other things an amusing description by the padre of his first visit to their meeting-place.

"It was a very dark night," he writes, "and bitterly cold when first I set out to locate their rendezvous. After wending my way for some time among the Bazaar shops I was confronted by what appeared to be prison gates. Nothing daunted, however, I heaved them slightly ajar and wormed my way through. Into the inky darkness of a deep archway I strode—slap into the hind-quarters of a cow which stood there placidly contemplating Nirvana. After groping for some time I unearthed a doorway leading to a double flight of the most terrible-looking stairs. Fortunately, some kindly soul had placed a dimly-lighted lantern up aloft. As I ascended that stairway the certainty grew

that I should ultimately walk straight into an opium den, or perhaps the secret meeting-place of a gang of desperadoes. Arriving safely up aloft I saw a welcome light streaming from a doorway across the passage, so taking a deep breath and adjusting the vocal chords in readiness for the "Cheerio, chaps" salutation, I entered—a *bania's* bedroom. A venerable gentleman, with flowing robes and whiskers, appeared on the scene, and, in the patient manner of the East, informed me that the Toc H Sahibs were at the other end of the front verandah . . . What a different story I have to tell about the inside. A cheerful room with a huge fire blazing in the corner and a kettle singing on the hob . . ."

The North West Frontier is another of those places where the constant and rapid changes of personnel make the work of Toc H more than usually difficult, and the padre remarks that those who are trying to hatch schemes in Kohat often feel rather like a hen trying to lay an egg on a moving staircase.

\* \* \* \*



The picture on this page shows an open-air service in progress at the Wellington (New Zealand) Schools Section Camp at Resolution Bay in the Queen Charlotte Sounds. About fifty boys attended, half from secondary schools in Wellington and half from orphanages. Behind the padre can be seen the Double Cross made of punga tree fern.

## SERVING THE MILITIAMEN

*No one can yet foresee what will be the precise conditions and needs of the new militiamen during their time of service. In this article an attempt is made to forecast some simple ways in which Toc H will be able to help them. For some of the ideas expressed we have to thank FRANK A. KING, a member debarred himself by long-standing unfitness from service of this kind.*

NO doubt soon after the issue of this number the young militiamen will be concentrating in their thousands at various points in the United Kingdom in camps, barracks and possibly billets. These men will be representative of all types of homes and will have come from all sorts of jobs and will represent all shades of opinion. Here is an unprecedented opportunity for Toc H units to prove themselves.

The percentage of Toc H members among the troops thus gathered together can be but small, so the membership should devote their attention, time and thought to holding out the hand of friendship and of welcome to the mass of young men suddenly plunged into strange surroundings and conditions.

A long and broad vision is essential as well as hard work and plenty of energy. Many ideas will occur to local leaders and it is hoped that very many will put them into action. The following methods are only indicated as some guide to what may be possible.

Obviously barracks and camps cannot be invaded by individuals or parties without official permission, so that the first thing to do is for a suitable Toc H leader to be detailed to make contact with the senior Officer or his Adjutant and to explain how anxious Toc H is to be of service to the militiamen in such spare time as they are likely to have, and to ask for permission for notices to be displayed in the Station, giving an open invitation to all and sundry to attend the local Toc H meetings. Then there is the possibility for Toc H units happily possessing permanent quarters to open

them up early every evening, including Sundays, when a friendly welcome can be extended to the stranger, making provision of course for the attendance of at least two or three members to act as hosts. If the Toc H unit has no permanent quarters, then it might be instrumental in arousing local interest, so that quarters might be found and furnished, and possibly manned, at least in part, by members of Toc H.

Toc H units could take the initiative in forming local Committees of leading citizens to provide hospitality, *i.e.*, invitations to tea, supper, tennis and suchlike in their houses—some might be able and willing to keep “open house” for tea, for instance. At the same time the danger of the Sergeant-Major “detailing” parties to go and report for tea at Mrs. Blank’s must at all costs be avoided, for everything should be informal and friendly.

In the realm of sport also there would seem almost unlimited possibilities, such as the arrangement of cricket, football, or hockey matches at week-ends, between teams initiated by Toc H members and their friends with militia teams.

The provision of newspapers, books (not relics) and magazines would seem to be an opening worth exploring.

All, however, must be left to the vision, initiative and energy of local units and no rules can or should be laid down.

It is unlikely that militiamen will know their ultimate Station before leaving to join up. No doubt many of them will write to their friends and fellow members, and it is hoped that those left behind will

look upon it as their pleasure to write regularly, giving them local news and helping them to settle down among new surroundings.

It is also important that the militiaman be put in touch as soon as possible with the Toc H unit nearest to his Station. Therefore Unit Secretaries are strongly urged to provide each member or probationer before he is due to report for duty with a *stamped* postcard already addressed to:—

The Secretaries for the Services,  
47, Francis Street, London, S.W.1,  
with the following written on the back:—

Name and initials (block letters).....

Official Army Number.....

Full Army postal address.....

Date..... Branch or Group.....

He should be asked to complete the card and post it as soon as he knows his training station. In addition Unit Secretaries are asked to inform the Secretaries for the Services as soon as they know of the address of any members or probationers called up. The Secretaries for the Services have undertaken to pass on the information thus given to the local Units concerned and will themselves endeavour to get into touch individually.

The Branch and Group Treasurer will no doubt be wondering how to deal with the problem if income is reduced owing to

the temporary absence of active members. It is hoped that any member or probationer called up will link up with the local unit and therefore will obviously be relieved of his financial obligations to his home unit whilst away. It may be up to those left behind to make good possible deficiencies.

It must be borne in mind that jobs of service normally undertaken by those now away must not on any account be neglected, and an older member may find additional work coming on his shoulders owing to the absence of the younger members. In addition he may be called upon to keep in touch with some young man's home, perhaps his widowed mother, and of giving there much needed and appreciated friendliness. Instances may also occur where much of the success of a small business may have depended on the help given by the man who has been called up, and here again is an opportunity for sympathetic action.

It must again be emphasised that the calling up of the "twenties" presents a new set of conditions offering innumerable new occasions to Toc H, which was started originally to offer hospitality and friendship to the lonely stranger. It is for the present membership to seize the opportunity to put this tradition again into active practice with the Services.

## A FRENCHMAN ON CONSCRIPTION

*We invited a young Frenchman, who has recently completed his period of military training, to tell us how conscription is regarded by those who serve and how it works in his country. We believe many readers will be grateful to M. MAURICE GRANGIE for the article which follows.*

CONSCRIPTION in France is now accepted as a deeply-rooted national tradition. Since the Great War, no political party has ever raised fundamental objections against it: only the duration of active service has been modified several

times, in accordance with the ebb and flow of European tension. From two years of service in 1919 it was reduced to 18 months, then further to 12 months, but has again been lengthened to two years in view of the ever-increasing danger of aggression.



An ordinary Frenchman is no more a born soldier than an ordinary Englishman: nor is he turned into one by force; compulsion in military matters is accepted by him as a national necessity the full extent of which is plain to one and all. The boisterous rejoicings of conscripts when they have been declared "fit for service" bear witness that every French lad is proud to be called to the colours and to play his part in the protection of his country: and, strikingly enough, this attitude is particularly widespread in the more agricultural provinces where stalwart individualism has not been obliterated by the gregarious spirit which is developed in industrial areas. It is considered by many as a disgrace to be physically unfit.

Undoubtedly, the youth of a nation could be conscripted to a better end than military training, and we all hope that some day they may work together to build rather than to destroy; but, even in the present situation, the social advantages resulting from national conscription in France are not to be overlooked.

Over a period of two years, no distinction is made between the rich and the poor; they don the same uniforms, serve in the same regiments, get the same pay (1½d. a day), obey the same chiefs, and live the same life. Unless he qualifies for a higher rank by supplementary training, the son of a steel magnate peels potatoes with the apprentice in his works, the scholar sleeps beside the navvy, and the beneficial outcome of such close and enduring contacts is so obvious that there is no need to expatiate on the subject.

Even the sturdiest individualist can, without feeling any disgrace, abide by the rules of discipline in the French army. Although strict they are by no means cruel. The slogan of the bullying sergeant is as legendary as that of the thrifty Scot, and it is common experience that the very

few who rebel against authority prove to be social failures in later life.

Yet it might appear that the daily routine of a soldier's life is rather stale, wearisome and to some extent unprofitable, if not harmful. But in fact it affords a great variety of useful exercise. The inevitable drudgeries exist, of course, but do not fill the whole day. Most of the time spent on duty is devoted to very profitable physical training, drill, frequent manœuvres in open spaces, and sports of all kinds. And the off-time—from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. every day, from 5 p.m. to midnight twice a week, Sundays free—can be used by the soldier just as he likes.

Moreover, the peasants are given great facilities for long leave during the summer months. Young lads from the country, who had never before had a chance to leave their native village or hamlet are very often garrisoned in distant regions of France, and thus enlarge their horizons and get into touch with people whom they often misjudged from mere ignorance. And the more enterprising young men may, if they choose, serve in the Colonial troops in North Africa, and acquire very important first-hand information on the French Empire.

To sum up: physical development, the discovery of new horizons, greater mutual understanding, an added amount of self-confidence, and the kindling of the national spirit, are among the benefits of conscription in France.

There seem to be no reasons why they should not be the same in Britain. Is not every British lad at heart prepared to devote a period of his youth to the service of his Country, if he realizes that it is not only hardships that he will encounter, but that the apparent sacrifice of his liberty can be a source of valuable personal enrichment?

MAURICE GRANGIÉ.

## EFFECTIVE SERVICE—XII

### The Needs of the Deaf and Dumb

*None of our fellow-citizens are so little noticed or more left to loneliness than the deaf and dumb. Toc H in some places has found ways of bringing them into the fellowship of its family circle, but many more opportunities of service await us in this field almost everywhere. We are glad to be able to publish, first, an impression by ARTHUR HEDLEY, whose career as a minister has been ended by his own deafness, of the world in which such sufferers live, and, secondly, a note by the Rev. ALBERT SMITH, of the Royal Association in aid of the Deaf and Dumb, on simple ways in which Toc H members can give practical help.*

### The Tragedy of Deafness

ARE you interested in the subject of deafness? If not, it is within the bounds of possibility that you may be afflicted yourself soon or late, when self-interest will compel you to give it your serious attention. An eminent aurist states that over three million people are 'hard of hearing' in the British Isles; while another declares that one person in every three is potentially deaf.

There is, perhaps, no affliction so disabling in its effects as that of deafness. It is nothing less than a tragedy to be shut out from the world of sound and to be imprisoned in a tomb of silence. To become gradually deaf to the sound of human voices, song of the birds, the murmur of the running brook, whistling of the wind in the tree-tops, is indeed a sad and bitter experience.

Thousands of men and women have been compelled to relinquish their profession through increasing deafness; doctors, lawyers, clergymen, musicians, have found it impossible to continue because impaired hearing has placed them in so many awkward and embarrassing situations. Two friends, both brilliant musicians, can no longer hear a sound when they touch the piano.

Deafness results in a sense of isolation from one's fellows. It means, for those who become stone deaf, the denial of social intercourse. Sound is the natural link

between human minds; and those in which this connection is missing or defective must find themselves cut off from the rest of the community. No longer able to enjoy the pleasure of Divine worship, the theatre, concert or cinema, they are tempted to withdraw from all society and live a secluded, isolated life.

Let it be remembered by those who complain of external noises, that the majority of deaf persons suffer from *tinnitus*—the medical term for incessant, indescribable head-noises, which at times almost drive the sufferer to despair.

Deafness has been called "the step-child" among handicaps. It begets more irritation, less understanding and more ridicule than any other impairment. A famous playwright, the late George R. Sims, said when he wanted his audience to shed tears he brought a blind man on the stage, but when he desired them to laugh he introduced a deaf man. It is a pleasure to note the B.B.C. has now put jokes against the deaf on their list of barred features. We hope the day is not far distant when the deaf will no longer be the butt of thoughtless comedians, but will receive that practical sympathy which their invisible disability deserves.

Lord Baldwin, who speaks with an understanding sympathy, says: "The public has very little realisation of the tragic fate of the deaf. Blindness is a most

terrible affliction, but from the dawn of history its victims have always met with a kind sympathy and consideration which must go far to alleviate their lot. But not one person in a hundred will voluntarily speak to a deaf person by means of an instrument. Most people make for the other side of the room; if they do talk they seem to become paralysed and their conversation becomes unnatural."

### Helping the Deaf and Dumb

**T**HE Deaf Community divides into two sections distinct from one another.

In the first are those who were born deaf or who lost their hearing in early infancy and are, therefore, without an adequate vocabulary for normal communication or for reading. This section is frequently called Deaf and Dumb, although in schools wonderful efforts are made to teach speech and the reading of speech from the lips, generally called Lip-reading. One may remark in passing that there is no such thing as 'lip-language.'

The second section are those who lost their hearing after having learnt their mother tongue. To these the thought of their fellow-men is open through literature.

It is mainly with the first section, whose handicap is heavier than can be readily realised by those possessed of hearing, that the Association to which I belong, and all other missions to the deaf, are concerned. This handicap results in extreme loneliness at times, and difficulties in the social, industrial and spiritual spheres of life. Indeed, the deaf and dumb may be said never to have a fair chance.

It is, therefore, a happiness to recall that up and down the country Toc H affords much help to those working amongst the deaf and dumb. It is chiefly

Deafness is a tragedy in itself to the victim, and where there is added the ridicule of the thoughtless, and ostracisation by one's fellows, it becomes almost too much for the mind to bear.

Show to the deaf that same kind consideration you show to the blind, for those living in silence need it equally as much as those who dwell in darkness.

ARTHUR HEDLEY.

in the social activities of the mission that this help is given. It varies and embraces provision of premises at a small rental, or free, club management, individual visiting of the young and, in places, special help is given to the blind-deaf. These are taken to and from entertainments, clubs and services and visited in their own homes. An important feature of this helping the blind-deaf is that of interpreting or spelling on to the blind-deaf person's hand, the service, sermon in church, or conversation, etc., in clubs and entertainments.

There is scope for great increase in the help given by Toc H. Public sympathy with the deaf is only roused with great effort and most missions are understaffed, ill-provided with premises and their agents have to cover too large an area. In these circumstances Toc H Branches in small towns can do much by allowing the use of their headquarters for the gathering together of the handful of local deaf and dumb for some measure of social life and, where a service is held on Sunday, the provision of a room and tea at a small charge.

ALBERT SMITH.

NOTE: Further information can be obtained from the Rev. Albert Smith, Chaplain Superintendent, The Royal Association in Aid of the Deaf and Dumb, 413, Oxford Street, W.1, or from the Rev. Vernon Jones, Secretary of the Central Advisory Council for the Spiritual Care of the Deaf and Dumb, Hurstdale, Wood Lane, Highgate, N.6.



# UNEMPLOYMENT

## III. Three Speeches

We print in this series this month considerable extracts from the speeches of three of the members who took part in the discussion on Unemployment at the meeting of the Central Council on April 15 (see Report, p. vii)—G. J. MORLEY JACOB (Chairman, Southern London Area Executive), IAN FRASER (Area Pilot, Scotland, Central and Experimental Areas) and JIM BURFORD (Area Secretary, Northern Area).

### I. Morley Jacob on "The 'Hard Core' of Unemployed"

"ENGLAND is full of wealth, of multifarious produce, supply for every human want in every kind; yet England is dying of inanition. We have more riches than any nation ever had before. In the midst of plethoric plenty, the people perish; with gold walls and full barns, no man feels himself safe or satisfied." So wrote Thomas Carlyle in a description of the inequality and apathy of his time, and, allowing a certain latitude for the author's dyspeptic outlook on life, the statement is not altogether without application to-day.

"England is full of wealth." This country spends vast sums upon the social services and upon armaments, and has immense investments not only at home but financial undertakings all over the world, which in turn bring back to these islands a yield of new wealth. In addition we can afford to spend £500,000,000 a year on betting and gambling, and a further £250,000,000 on drink, to quote only two items of not altogether productive or essential expenditure. And yet more than two millions of men in our country are unemployed—one in seven of the insured workers. It is true that some of these have only been out of work for a short while, and will probably find work again soon, but there is a "hard core" of long-unemployed men (that is to say those who have been continuously unemployed for a year or more) of over 300,000, about one-third of whom are under 35 years of age, mainly

accumulating on the registers in our larger cities and in the four Special Areas.

There are some who realise the significance of these figures, but who despair of doing anything about it. This unemployment, you are told, is due to world economic factors and can only be solved by international co-operation. To some extent that may be true, but as regards the "hard core" of unemployed, the matter is one for our own tackling, and is not influenced solely by international trade conditions. This is shown clearly in *Men without Work*, a Pilgrim Trust Report by the Archbishop of York's Committee on Unemployment. The Report states—"When the recovery took place (after the 1929 trade depression) the proportion of long unemployed did not go back to the old level; it did not even show a tendency to decline again, but it went on increasing." And later in the Report—"There is a 'hard core' of long unemployment which will not be resolved by recovery alone, in every town of this country, however prosperous, however diversified its range of industries, or however much its main industry benefits from industrial trends, and wherever it is situated. The problem is of increasing social importance throughout the country, and is not entirely bound up with the problem of economic activity and depression."

These are facts crying out for remedy by other than international operations, and in



the face of them how can Toc H members dare claim "to promote amongst all people a wide human interest in the lives and needs of their fellows and to foster in every man a sense of responsibility for the well-being of his fellow man" and do nothing constructive in the matter? We must do something, and the first thing is the committing of ourselves to study the problem

radically and to lead the membership to do the same. Having done something within the membership, we should then be ready to work through the members to a widening circle.

*(The speaker was seconding a resolution, which was later withdrawn, and the rest of his speech was concerned with a plan which was not adopted by the Council. See the Report, page vi.)*

## II. Ian Fraser on "The basic principles"

There are many people who think that the question has lost its urgency because of the tremendous expenditure on armaments and like works, omitting to realise that technical proficiency can often deal with this production without any great increase in the employment of labour. Further, the problem is not confined to the so-called Special Areas, for even at the present time four Highland counties, not so-called, have more than 25 per cent. of their insured population unemployed. Three Welsh counties and Anglesey are in the same position, and any adequate statistical survey will disclose that while the actual Ministry of Labour figures may be falling, these do not necessarily reveal the true position. In many rural areas there are large numbers of people who are unemployed but who do not come within the statistical survey, and even in big cities, unless the figures for people on Public Assistance are added, nothing like an adequate picture can be obtained. For example, in Glasgow, which is not technically a Special Area, the Ministry of Labour figures show some 80,000 unemployed people in a total population of one and a quarter millions, but at the same time there are about 100,000 people receiving Public Assistance payments.

No adequate approach or solution to the problem is possible until we recognise it

as one problem affecting the whole country, in relation to our industrial background, our technical proficiency and international ramifications. Like an ailment in the human body it can only be cured when the ailing part is brought back into a true organic relationship with the whole. Our first job is, I believe, to see the problem in that light, to understand its historical incidence and its root causes, for without that understanding we cannot make a realistic approach or plan of attack.

It seems to me that we in Toc H must start off basically with our concern for men and not for property, believing that "the sacred right of property" must be swept away if it prevents men having an adequate form of life. We must regard this concern for men as being the crucial test of the adequacy of any plans we make. We must be convinced first throughout the family of this basic principle and be prepared to work out the obviously painful problem which an alteration in any property system demands. Convinced of this, we can then try to reach a clear understanding of the problem itself in its technical and historical aspects, creating by our relationship with others a greater sensitiveness and awareness, both throughout the family and with other people in bodies with whom we are in effective liaison. By our individual participation in all political

parties and in all other bodies who have a concern about unemployment, whether it be palliative or creative, we shall be in a position to plead an informed point of view and to proceed to active measures. We can gain thereby the maximum platform for propaganda and agitation throughout the country. I believe that it is only by a combination of extra-parliamentary agitation and direct political activity on the part of individuals that we can bring the question into the active political and economic life of the country.

I believe that unemployment may yet be the "acid test" of the democratic method, for unless we are prepared to propound, within the democratic framework, a solution producing a quality of manhood that is better than that produced by totalitarian solutions (and in the interim accepting real responsibility for those two million people

and their dependents who at the present moment are regarded as being unemployed), the democratic method will fail. It will fail not because we shall have signed away our rights in various foreign cities but because we shall have proved ourselves inadequate to use the democratic method in the sphere of our own national and domestic action. I plead therefore for the hammering out of this basic concern for men, for a real understanding of the problem in the light of that principle, for personal and active participation in political action throughout the country and co-operation with all existing national and social bodies. Only thus can the maximum sensitiveness to the problem be gained and the latent good-will of the nation be united behind a positive plan whereby men, now unemployed, can again take a free and equal part in a democratic social order.

### III. Jim Burford on "Disployment"

Gilbert Chesterton once said "Let us first be right about what is wrong." Marcus Aurelius counselled mankind first to make a definition of the thing that was before them, whence it was derived, and how each part fitted into the other. Do we really and always make a definition about this thing called unemployment and see where it fits in? I have had something to do with Unemployment. I have been unemployed myself, and for a long time have given what time I can to unemployed people. Unemployment really means waiting to be employed. What we have now is a new thing, namely that the work of the world is going on without men. The power that drives the machine, steam and its mysterious cousin electricity, is, as we know, producing a displacement of labour and the more the machines produce the more they will displace men. Once we look at the problem in this way and reason

about it, we shall come to see that it is indeed something new in the world, heavy with responsibility and charged with opportunity.

We have got to *do* something, because the labour-force is wrapped up with personality and human souls; we cannot simply put those people out and let them rot. I suggest, however, that what we have mainly been doing is merely to be kind to these people. I have heard a man say, "The result of the thing you have been doing with unemployed is a nation of scroungers and loafers." Personally I could never feel happy in another man's trousers; I could never look at my wife and be satisfied if she were wearing another woman's "unfashionables." I should resent it.

This situation has not come about because of slackness of trade. It has come about because of the new method of pro-

duction, and it cannot be dealt with effectively by the things we have been doing. Neither can it be dealt with by expecting trade booms. There must be something more fundamental. It is our business to recognise two things—first, that the thing we call the “wage-system” is failing, failing to absorb the labour force, failing to distribute the results of production equitably, and, secondly, that we must face a new conception of society. We have to choose which is the more sacred, the divine right of property or the divine right of personality. It is not a question of unemployed people waiting for a trade revival: the displacement of human labour by power production needs some fundamental thinking and fundamental action if it is to be put right.

Work is declining and will continue to decline; life is an increasing quantity. That suggests that the problem is really one of leisure more than of labour. What happens in Oxford will demonstrate my

point about the thing I prefer to call “dis-employment.” Oxford University is a machine, I am told, that makes men; the object of the University is surely to make men. Outside the city there is a place where men make machines. In the University the educational system is worked on a plan of term and vacation. It ought to be possible in a well-ordered society that men should work a term and then have a vacation, just as in the case of University students.

That is the line of approach to the problem, the way in which we should conceive the solution. We are not dealing with something that will right itself, but with something that strikes at the heart of our religion, at the heart of the property-system, at the heart of the wage-system. I am one who believes that as Britain has more than once saved Europe by her exertions, she may, in her dealing with unemployment, save democracy and the world by her example.

## HOSPITALITY FOR REFUGEES

The urgent need of assistance for refugees is emphasized in a recent appeal from the British Committee for Refugees from Czecho-Slovakia. These are now arriving in this country at the rate of 200 per week, and fall into two groups. Firstly there are the political refugees who were due to have been brought out of Czecho-Slovakia long ago owing to their personal danger, but who were unfortunately unable to leave before the German occupation. Many have suffered great hardship in making their own way into Poland, where many more are now awaiting transport. Most of them have no belongings other than the clothes they stand up in, and are much in need of rest and care. Secondly there are the many Jewish refugees for whom life in Czecho-Slovakia is now impossible. Some of these people were previously in good positions, but are now entirely without any means of support. Hospitality for men, mar-

ried couples and families is urgently needed at once. Offers need only be for a month or so provided the transfer of refugees from one offer to another in the same district can be arranged for. In the case of offers made by people who are not able to give free hospitality a payment up to 17/6 a week may be made by the Central Refugee Committee, but only when it is impossible for the local committee to make some provision towards the cost.

The Central Refugee Committee would be glad of particulars of any houses or hostels which might be suitable as well as offers of private hospitality, but use cannot be made of offers which are only for a week or two owing to the travelling and administrative expenses involved. Enquiries and offers should be made to the British Committee for Refugees from Czecho-Slovakia, 5, Mecklenburgh Square, W.C.1.

## PROGRAMMES

THE last word about Programmes, their planning and their purpose, has been said long ago. We have indeed a veritable literature on the subject: and it only remains for some enterprising fellow to collect the excellent papers on the subject, the talks given at Training Week-ends, the articles published in the JOURNAL, and to edit the book. What more can be said? Certainly nothing much more about Programmes. Something, however, might be said about men thinking.

We treat the programme as being a particular aspect of the life of our Groups and Branches. We list it along with other mysterious concepts, such as 'the religious side of Toc H'; we dwell upon each problem and soon each item bristles with difficulties. Moreover, in our precious concern for a partial view, the meaning of the whole process eludes us. And, just as the 'religious side of Toc H' when treated as a subject is soon seen to be a silly artificiality, so a programme treated without regard to the total meaning of the life of a particular unit, becomes an unnatural monstrosity. Put in another way, the real difficulty is not that of causing men to think during a meeting (indeed, Chairmen have a distressing habit of assuring the speaker who has provoked no questions that he has 'given everyone a lot to think about'), but before and after a meeting. The best devised programme, framed according to all the ancient authorities, will succeed only in being a series of lectures, unless behind the efforts of the programme builders, there is private personal thought and study—unless, in other words, the members of the Group bring to the meeting minds which are awake and lit with an urgent spirit. Unless we see the thing we call the Programme as being the opportunity for the exchanging,

sharing and testing of ideas and thoughts. Just as Family Prayers, unrelated to the experiences of personal private prayer, tend to become a weekly gesture, so corporate listening, thinking, and discussion, unrelated to personal study and thought, tend to become "mere talk, which gets a man nowhere."

### The Power of Ideas

"Mere talk." Yes, that is a very real difficulty which we have to face. We are apt to underestimate the value and importance of ideas, and to forget that the creative, dynamic power in life is that idea. We forget, for example, as a prominent politician has reminded us, that the tyrant fears most, not threats, not violence, but "the mouse of thought." We do well not to underestimate the value of ideas. Relief from tension is not always to be found in action. The man who tries to think his way through, to understand, to see behind the ebb and flow of European politics the Eternal Realities is not always to be dismissed as an impractical fool and a waster of time. The purely practical man (if there be any such person!) can only act so long as he has an intention, a plan. When the plan has been worked out, or gone wrong, he must stop and think.

As Professor MacMurray puts it: "There are crises, however, when a man's soul or the soul of a civilisation goes sick and the Flame of Faith burns very low. Spontaneity and vitality begin to disappear. This is when disillusionment sets in and life begins to seem meaningless. When that happens we can no longer face up to the problems that life sets us; we grow afraid and timid. In such a crisis reflection and understanding are essential. The vital necessity of understanding our own bodily mechanism comes from the

fact of disease; and the science of medicine is forced upon us by the necessity of dealing with the diseases of the body, not with its health. So in the current of our social history, understanding is a luxury when the energy of faith is in full tide; but when faith is at the ebb, it is an urgent necessity. Understanding is not a game at all, it is a serious business when the problems you have to solve are forced on you by life itself and there is no avoiding them; when it will make all the difference between success and disaster for you whether you understand or fail to understand. . . . When life sets problems to men or to nations they must be solved, and on their solution their fate may depend."

#### A Personal Challenge

It is the very essence of the true crisis of to-day that it can only be resolved by personal effort of thought and action. To seek to escape from this responsibility, to delegate it to others, to say "It is no concern of mine" is, in effect, a refusal to face the main issue. It may be comforting to see the complex situation in pure blacks and pure whites; to see the issue as being one between contending military forces. It is that in part; but in part only. The wider issue is concerned with the very life of man and of human society. We live in an age when the very structure of our society is being tested, its weaknesses exposed, an age when the very nature of man is a matter for question. *That* is the real scope, that is the real magnitude of our Crisis. But, as Dr. L. P. Jacks puts it: "The condition of an advanced civilisation is always critical. And this condition we must regard not as a doom, but as a challenge, and as a good rather than an evil. For we men are fearfully and wonderfully made. The day of crisis is the birthday of our virtues."

It is as though we men have reached a

point of critical awareness, a point at which we see more clearly what lies before us, the difficulties that have to be encountered if we would make true progress. We can go back only at the price of the denial of our nature, and the denial of the motive and intention which has lain hitherto behind our attempts to create a true society. We can go forward, and the price of a better social order we now begin to know, and the cost of a peaceful, neighbourly world. We know that that price has to be paid by all and each of us. It involves among other things, the creation of a deeper, truer sense of civic responsibility, self-discipline of mind and of spirit.

Professor Laski puts the point in these incomparable words: "The more we insist that it is not our concern, the easier we make the demagogue's task. For it is the essence of liberty that it should depend upon the respect it can arouse in humble men. It has no foe more subtle than their sense of apathy or helplessness."

#### The Inarticulate Member

And so, therefore, greater and sterner demands are made upon our courage; upon our mental and spiritual courage as citizens of a country and as men in a frightened, perplexed world. But as Mr. J. G. Lockhart remarked in a recent broadcast address: "While men will usually give with the greatest generosity, they will think only with the greatest reluctance." Why? Perhaps one reason is that we underestimate the value of our thoughts or doubt our capacity for thought. We have perhaps assumed that "our opinion doesn't count." This is an understandable attitude since the whole trend of this industrial age seems to be towards making personal life and human values more and more trivial. Conditions of life for many are such that it seems ironical to preach the



essential nobility of man. But those who have courage must help others to find it.

Others, perhaps, feel that their thoughts are not worth thinking; they cannot express themselves easily because they lack the training. So in the very simple human business of Group and Branch discussions far too many remain silent. If our programmes are planned with regard to the true intention of Toc H we will find more frequently than we do that they are the means of releasing men from the prison house of inarticulation. Some of us stand in need of that essential courage which is required to enable a man to face for the first time a new subject, to make the effort to understand, to change a lifetime of habit of unquestioning acceptance, courage to endure the pains of uncertainty, to leave the familiar anchorage for the adventure of sailing into an unknown sea. Yes, it requires courage to think, to dare to leave the familiar grooves of thought, to examine critically the comforting *cliché*; to look again at the ancient loyalties, to question old acceptances. Courage we need to refrain from the biased, prejudiced thinking by which our civilisation is rent; and wisdom to refrain from the dissipation of energy in the maintenance of prejudices. Think we must, for "men who cease to think cease also in any genuine way to be citizens. They become the mere inert recipients of orders which they obey without scrutiny of any kind."

#### A Starting Point

Where shall we start? So far it has been argued that the main difficulty lies not so much in the framing of a programme as in the creation of a living interest in our own minds. But even if that were to be granted as true, there yet remains ground for the criticism that in many units what is called the programme is too often inadequate for the expression of the concern

men feel. We recruit men on the assumption that they have, at any rate in some way, responded to the deep appeal of Toc H. From that point onward, we often treat men as though they were silly sheep who must be "held together"; we must "keep their interest." So our programme becomes a calculated blend of grave and gay, and shallow thinking in terms of "dry subjects" and "light subjects" produces something which makes trivial the whole life of the unit. We have to decide whether we came to Toc H to escape from life or to find it more fully and make the effort to understand it.

Where shall we start? Should there be any order in the selection from the welter of subjects which demand attention? Some feel as convinced Christians that they already possess the answer to the world's dilemma. While that may be true, it is not always true to say that the answer is available in a form which is understandable by the world. Sincere, creative thought is demanded of Christians if we are to translate the language and intention of the Kingdom of God into terms which meet the social, economic and political problems of the time.

#### Religion and Politics

By the fact of our nature we are religious; and because we all stand in some relation to other men we are all politicians, whether we wish to think ourselves such or not. We would do well to rethink the relationship between Religion and Politics. But we have not always been honest in our thought of this relationship. Discussion and argument which assumes a political form is disturbing to some of our members, and there is sometimes misgiving as to the desirability of "Toc H being concerned with politics." The attitude of Toc H to this or that matter has no relevance to this question—(there is, moreover,

a very real distinction between concern with politics and concern with a policy)—what is relevant is the attitude of Christian men to a relationship with other men. That relationship and its consequences no man may escape, and to that extent there is no escape from political concerns. It is reasonable to observe that our present confusion derives in part from an attempt to think in terms of pure religion and pure

politics, and an attempt to ignore the natural and fundamental relation between the two.

Within these two main concerns our programmes should be framed, and Toc H, conscious of its true purpose of achieving a twofold reconciliation, of man to man, and man to God, will know the need of dedicated minds no less than dedicated hearts.

JIM DAVIES.

## FROM SPADES TO HEARTS

*In an article entitled "Spades are Trumps" in the March JOURNAL, G. K. T. wrote about the theory of Work Camps. The same writer, having recently had his first experience of such a Camp, now tells how he found the scheme to work out in practice.*

A CERTAIN street in an industrial town in Lancashire has a very unusual name. I must not give it, but will call it "Pneumonia Street," which is what I thought a man said when he directed me to it. At any rate a certain house in "Pneumonia Street" harboured an unusual collection of people one evening last month. It was a more remarkable mixture than many a Toc H gathering. There were, for instance, a Glasgow engineering student, a schoolmaster from London, another from the Welsh Marches, a tailor from Morecambe, two schoolboys, a headmistress, an unemployed man, a factory-worker, a lady who had worked in a cotton-mill, a Toc H representative, and lastly a man of considerable renown, J. S. Hoyland.

If you had stepped in, you would immediately have concluded that you had chanced upon a Toc H meeting, and a very good one too, not only because of the mixture but because of the complete absence of restraint and the alternation of humour with serious topics.

The house in "Pneumonia Street" had a piano. On this we played everything from Bach and Chopin to "Clementine"

and the song about proceeding to one's nuptials on a tandem bicycle (I do not know its title). The factory-worker, who had a splendid baritone, sang solos. The unemployed man, who had an enormously wide knowledge, told us many interesting things about the town to which we had come. The ex-cotton-mill lady gave a most vivid account of the conditions of work which she had experienced. We could have gone on all night, but there was work to do next day. John Hoyland read us a passage from the Bible. We said the Lord's Prayer together and then dispersed to our various billets.

Work. Thirteen of us had come, according to an arrangement with Jim, the Secretary of the local Allotment-holders' Association, to dig the allotments of unemployed men who, through infirmity or some other cause, had been prevented from digging their own. Most of us spent the whole week at it, and even then we could not finish what required doing. Do you know the fascination of sowing seeds or planting things, and then watching them grow under your care? It is an absorbing interest, and no unemployed man should be deprived of the chance of pursuing it.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

THE Central Council, the governing body of Toc H, held its Annual Meeting on the afternoon of Saturday, April 15, and in accordance with a decision taken at the meeting last year, Councillors remained overnight in London for discussion and other events next day.

After prayers in All Hallows at 2 p.m., conducted by the ADMINISTRATIVE PADRE, the members of the Council met at 42, Trinity Square, with HARRY WILLINK (Chairman of the Central Executive) in the chair. There were 92 Councillors, out of a possible 127 present, and, in addition, a good many members of the whole-time staff and a few visiting members from overseas. Those present who were not Councillors were, as usual, given leave to speak but not to vote. There were two notable absentees, Tubby who was still on his way home from India, and Hubert Secretan (Hon. Administrator) who, to everyone's regret, was at home in bed and has since gone on sick-leave.

### Appointment of Officers

*Hon. Administrator:* As HUBERT SECRE-TAN's term of office was due to expire at the end of this year's Council meeting, the Central Executive asked the Council to confirm his appointment for a further two years. This was moved by General Sir CHARLES HARINGTON and seconded by J. R. BROWN (members of the Central Executive) in very warm terms and passed by the Council with enthusiasm.

*Administrative Padre:* F. E. ('Bobs') FORD was re-appointed Administrative Padre for two further years, on the motion of two members of the Central Executive, W. J. LAKE LAKE and E. O. MOSS.

*Association Padres:* The following appointments, made by the Central Executive since the last Annual Meeting, were confirmed by the Council:

(i) *Association Padres (Staff):* Revs. S. L. Davis, D. Ford, J. P. Lawrenson, L. Vincent-Daviss.

(ii) *Hon. Association Padres (Home):* Revs. G. H. T. Blake (Bapt.), A. K. Bos-

tock, R. N. Craig, R. S. Dabbs, J. A. Fraser (C.S.), A. E. Howard (Pres.), C. Marr, T. Ritchie (C.S.), J. E. E. Tunstall.

(iii) *Hon. Association Padres (Overseas):* Revs. R. H. C. Birt (South Africa), T. S. Harvey (South Africa), Canon J. B. Townsend (Argentina), M. Ward (Meth., India). (All padres not otherwise shown are Anglican.)

### Election of Central Executive

Voting papers, previously circulated, were handed in after the tea-interval. The members elected as the Central Executive for 1939-40 were announced in the JOURNAL for May (p. 155).

### Accounts

WM. A. HURST (Hon. Treasurer) presented the Accounts for the financial year ended on October 31, 1938. He drew the Council's attention to the reconstructed form of Balance Sheet (see Annual Report). This form, in which the assets allocated to funds and special purposes were shown in the Balance Sheet itself instead of in a series of footnotes, had been adopted for the sake of clearness. The new form tended to show a large surplus of assets over liabilities, but most of this was tied up in fixed assets and was not available for other purposes.

"At the time of the crisis in September last," continued the Hon. Treasurer, "it was not surprising that our income almost ceased, and it looked as though the year would be the worst in the financial history of Toc H. But the international situation eased for the time being, and the total ordinary income for the year was £32,500, and of this some £7,000 was received during October—the last month of the financial year. It would be much more satisfactory if our income was spread evenly over the year. The result would be a lessening in overdraft charges and of anxiety on the part of the Finance Committee.

"The last minute rush included gifts totalling nearly £2,000 from several members who desired to repeat their part in the previous year's "Light Brigade" Charge, and also special contributions of some £360

from General members. Contributions from Members under various headings, as you will have noticed, amount to £16,394, and compares very favourably with the previous year which included the "Light Brigade" figure of £4,000 in a grand total of £17,395. Once again may I express the gratitude of the Central Executive to all those members who have made these efforts, and the hope that their numbers may continue to increase.

"In addition to the personal contributions of Members we have been fortunate in securing donations from many of the Banks, Insurance Companies and other companies in the City, but, whilst these have tided us over for the moment, we cannot expect them to be repeated year after year, and therefore the fight for increased annual income is still necessary and must go on. This means that we must continue to concentrate upon our two main sources of income—Builders and Unit Contributions. Both have improved in the year under review, and if similar improvements continue during the next few years, and are subsequently maintained, the financial affairs of Toc H will be much more simple to deal with than they are at present. There is a third source which might be increased with safety and advantage. I refer to General Members' Subscriptions and Capitation Fees. If membership of Toc H is built up a little more perfectly, and if Unit and District Officers will make more use of the machinery which can prevent the loss of members who move from one place to another and perhaps lose touch if they are not contacted by Headquarters, the result will be a bigger membership growth with more Capitation Fees, which will quite naturally be followed by a greater total in Unit Contributions and even a bigger increase in Builders. I still deplore the apparent slackness in remitting Capitation Fees when they should be remitted, and I hope you will give this matter some attention when you return to your Areas. If members placed a greater value upon the possession of a current Membership Card than they do at present, Unit Treasurers might feel a greater urge to be more prompt.

"For years we have stressed the necessity of increasing our income to meet our minimum needs, but we have not been entirely successful, and during the past twelve months we have been compelled by circumstances beyond our control to effect staff economies.

#### *Reduction of Expenditure.*

"It will be remembered that at the special meeting of the Council in January, 1938, and again at the Annual Meeting in April, my co-Treasurer made it clear that if by June the Finance Committee were of the opinion that the results of the efforts of members and the recruitment of new Builders did not show promise of making both ends meet, retrenchment would have to be seriously considered. This was done, and as the result of measures taken the saving in expenditure for the year 1938-9 as compared with that of 1937-8 is expected to be in the region of £1,800 on Staff and further savings in other directions up to a maximum of £800, making a total estimated saving of £2,600.

"The Areas concerned are showing welcome readiness to accept the challenge to volunteer leaders to undertake the added responsibility resulting from a reduction in their staff strength, but the consequent absence of any reserve of men, particularly for meeting overseas needs, is an unavoidable consequence which requires to be remedied as soon as possible. Nevertheless, the general effect of these measures is greatly to strengthen the financial position of Toc H as regards the relation of expenditure to income.

"What is now required to make the position really sound is a steady and far more widespread effort to implement the Council's considered policy of adding greatly to the strength of our Builders. Since the special Council Meeting new Builders, contributing a total of £1,400, have been secured, against which must be set off the annual wastage in Builders' Subscriptions, which always occurs. This result, which has been achieved by the efforts of comparatively few members, shows what can be done when the Council's injunction of last year has got home to members and is acted upon generally.

### *The Accumulated Debt.*

"Much more difficult, but equally essential, is it to take steps to clear off the accumulated debit balance on income and expenditure account of £5,532 and other debits on Capital items incurred over past years, which account between them for the overdraft of £16,994. What I have already said about ordinary income and expenditure shows clearly that there was no chance of paying this off from ordinary revenue without reducing expenditure to an extent which would cripple the movement.

### *Headquarters on Tower Hill.*

"While we were considering this problem, a new factor arose through the generous gift of a site for Headquarters on Tower Hill from Lord Wakefield, and it was decided to combine this long-felt need with an effort to clear the existing debt. The move to Tower Hill would release certain fixed assets and thus indirectly meet, in part, the debt. Consequently an effort, in conformity with the Council's desires, to join the attempt to raise new financial support with an effort to widen public knowledge of Toc H was begun with the Mansion House Dinner on February 28. From the point of view of spreading knowledge of Toc H this was most successful and, considering the times, the Lord Mayor's announcement of £4,400 (including some generous promises made before the dinner) was by no means a bad start.

"The actual sum asked for was £30,000, including £10,000 to enable Toc H to maintain over the next three years staff, especially for pioneer work, which could not otherwise be supported.

"Much remains to be done, and the spreading of knowledge about Toc H is of its essence. The next step is a Garden Party, at which we are to be honoured by the presence of H.M. the Queen, and for which the King has been graciously pleased to allow the use of Hampton Court Palace, an action by our Patron for which we ought to be profoundly grateful.

"The Council should note that the Garden Party is simply the finale of a long process of spreading understanding of Toc H

in quarters where it has been little known and often misunderstood. A series of meetings in private houses has been arranged, beginning through the great kindness of Mrs. Chamberlain with one in the historic setting of 10, Downing Street, at each of which a talk is given about Toc H, and members are present to follow it up in informal conversation. Even if this brings, as it will (the world situation permitting), much new interest and support, we have still a long way to go, and every effort will be required.

### *A 'short-term' and 'long-term' policy.*

"The Council should make a clear distinction in its mind between this 'short-term policy' to raise a given sum and the 'long-term policy' of increasing our regular income. The Area Finance Committees, and through them the Area Executives, have been kept fully informed, and a memorandum setting out the whole position in detail was placed in their hands in January last.

"These two policies between them, if carried through resolutely and with the full backing of the movement, should give Toc H the stability and resources it requires for the adequate performance of a task made more essential by the difficulties of the times."

D. S. CAMPBELL (Joint Hon. Treasurer), who welcomed the Hon. Treasurer's appearance at the Council after a period of ill-health, moved the adoption of the Accounts and BRIAN DICKSON (Central Executive) seconded.

G. TUCKEY (South Africa), speaking as an accountant, congratulated those responsible for the way in which the Accounts had been prepared. He asked whether more information about overseas accounts could in future be given for the benefit of overseas members, to which W. J. MUSTERS (Registrar) replied that overseas auditors' reports never arrived in time to include overseas accounts in the Annual Report, but that it might be possible to refer to them in a subsequent number of the JOURNAL.

J. F. ODELL (Southern London) asked what was the amount of "the usual wastage" in Builders' subscriptions to which the Hon. Treasurer had referred. W. J. Mus-



TERS, in reply, said the figure for Builders in 1937 was £6,013: the figure for the year under review was £6,847—an increase of £834. New Builders had raised £1,400, and if they subtracted £834 from that sum, they found the wastage to be about £600.

ODELL went on to complain that General Members, from a financial and from other points of view, were neglected. A. N. MEIER (Western London Area Executive) asked how many General Members were on the books. To which W. J. MUSTERS replied that the number of General Members, both Central and Area, was about 3,000—not including the figures of General Members attached to Branches and Groups, and members in the Services. Over a year ago the Central Elections Committee had begun to tackle the treatment of General Members and he hoped that they would soon be adequately dealt with. R. R. CALKIN (General Secretary) suggested that the financial aspect should be included in the discussion on General Membership due to take place next day.

#### Proposed New Headquarters

KEITH FRASER (Eastern London Area Executive) and R. K. CANNING (Birmingham) wanted more information about the proposal to build new Headquarters on Tower Hill, to which the Hon. Treasurer had referred.

THE CHAIRMAN said he had not come to the meeting prepared to make a case for this proposal, and he was particularly sorry on that score that the Administrator was not present. Lord Wakefield had been very generous as a result of suggestions made to him by Tubby, and he thought there was no doubt whatever that the position as regards Lord Wakefield was that he admired Tubby's vision and wanted to bring that vision to pass. In particular he would like to bring Tubby's vision to pass in or near the City of London, of which he (Lord Wakefield) was such a distinguished representative. Another point was that in regard to this Tower Hill site there was unanimity between Tubby and Hubert. There was something un-

natural and difficult about the very distance separating the work at the Eastern end of the City from Francis Street. It was more over an advantage to Toc H to have its Headquarters in a far more commanding situation from the Imperial and world point of view than the backwater in Francis Street. He thought it was those considerations that persuaded the Central Executive to a general acceptance of the principle that a move from S.W.1 to E.C.3 was a good move. If you are appealing for money, and in particular if you are appealing to the City of London, it was a very great deal easier if you had something tangible, central and important in the whole structure of the movement to appeal for rather than to appeal for money to get rid of the incubus of accumulated deficits.

D. S. CAMPBELL (Joint Hon. Treasurer) added that, while the appeal for a new Headquarters would capture the imagination of some donors, the Finance Committee had in mind that the need of earmarked contributions for maintaining the whole-time staff should have priority. Dr. L. F. BROWNE (Central Executive, Northern London Area Executive) wished to hear from those who worked at the present Headquarters their views as to its adequacy. No views from this quarter were forthcoming. H. H. REID thought that no one would call 47, Francis Street 'palatial' and felt that Toc H deserved more adequate Headquarters for its work. Rev. HERBERT LEGGATE (Assistant Administrative Padre) asked whether the title 'Imperial Headquarters' had been used for the first time that afternoon: to which the CHAIRMAN replied that its origin was to be found in the message to H.M. The Patron last year in which the phrase "a splendid site for the future Imperial Headquarters" was used.

#### The use of Garden Parties

E. L. J. TERRY (Surrey and Sussex Area Executive) reminded the Council of the feeling two years ago against the use of 'charity matinées' as a means of raising money for Toc H. He now questioned the method of the Garden Party and the prepara-

tory meetings at 10, Downing Street and elsewhere, to which the Hon. Treasurer's report had referred.

THE CHAIRMAN said the question raised was one that almost invariably produced enthusiasm or the opposite in various quarters. What he felt about it was that spasmodic efforts like film premièrès, matinées and so forth was, as Peter Monie had pointed out years ago, not only wrong but rotten finance. It was not always wrong to have a matinée. A matinée was not in itself the work of the devil any more than a garden party or a film premièrè was the work of the devil. But to live on those things, and to go on living on them was wrong, just in the same way as it was wrong for a Toc H Branch to live on whist drives and say "If we really need any money we can always raise it by a dance or a whist drive." That was definitely wrong. They had set their faces against it and had tried for a healthier form of finance. Then a second principle was established, which was to have the garden party or a matinée not only as a means of raising money but to create a genuine interest in Toc H. That, too, was criticised. They might remember that upon this issue Tubby was very doubtful as to whether they were not becoming foolishly purist and pharisaical. He personally thought there was something in what Tubby had said. After all, one of the great principles of Toc H was to capture people where they could get them and bring them on. If Ted Samuel were there he could tell them many things about the way these events had provided opportunities for interesting people and bringing them in. The answer he suggested they should give to their Branches was this: What they were doing did not transgress principles. It did not transgress the principle that they should not live on that sort of thing without making an effort to give themselves. It did not transgress the principle that they must not have that sort of entertainment without making good use of it. The long-term policy had nothing whatever to do with this sort of effort. It was part of the short-term policy to get them out of their accumulated

difficulties. Deficits accumulated because they were not giving as they should.

They were trying to make use of everything that concerned the proposed Garden Party. Pat Leonard and Michael Coleman had talked at two of the parties. He himself had the alarming experience of talking at 10, Downing Street, and could assure the Council that he had done his best to give the two hundred and more guests a clear picture of Toc H. He did not think that in doing this they were in any way transgressing principles.

The Annual Report is adopted

After the tea interval the CHAIRMAN read parts of a letter from the HON. ADMINISTRATOR, making his apologies to the Council for absence. Hubert Secretan wrote: "Had I been able to introduce the Report, I had in mind to say quite simply something to the effect that what matters most to-day is that we keep our principles firm and our methods flexible. If we want to win Everyman we must adventure for him and with him until we win him. If we allow ourselves to become stereotyped in our ways of approach to men we shall tend to collect one type, and Everyman, who hates types and only knows individuals, will carry his longing elsewhere."

The CHAIRMAN then moved that the Annual Report be received. He called the Council's attention to three essential problems (Report, p. 9), which had made the past year greater in strain for Hubert than any of the previous years. These were: (a) The pulling together into an organic unity of the many departments of Toc H activity; (b) the cultivating of individual leadership and responsibility on a scale appropriate to the movement; (c) the solidifying of the financial basis of the movement. With regard to (a), Hubert had played a great part in getting harmony of direction combined with diversity of method. The crisis of last September and the continuing international uncertainty had, of course, imposed a heavy burden on those responsible for Toc H.

General Sir REGINALD MAY (Central Executive) formally seconded the adoption of the Annual Report.

## Unemployment

Three resolutions, in the names of R. FAWCETT (Scotland Central Area Executive), G. H. HASLEHAM (South Wales) and F. WILLIS (Southern London Area Executive), with regard to Unemployment stood on the agenda.

R. FAWCETT, with the permission of the Council and the consent of the representatives from Wales who were sponsoring the second resolution, withdrew the first two resolutions and substituted one resolution in the following terms:—

"We, members of Toc H, in seeking to know and to do the Will of God, are convinced that the state of Unemployment, in so far as it deprives men of a fullness of life, is contrary to His Will.

"As men of a Christian nation we recognise that it is our duty to strive to remove this evil.

"Therefore we urge that the members of this Council should give consideration to the growing interest in the problem of Unemployment, and endeavour, in their contact with Toc H, to direct the attention of its members to the problem itself, rather than merely to the relief of its effects."

The mover said that the intention of the motion was only to open a debate on the question. G. H. HASLEHAM seconded.

F. WILLIS having withdrawn the third resolution standing in his name on the agenda, G. J. MORLEY JACOB (Southern London Area Executive) proposed an amendment to add the following paragraph to the resolution now before the Council:—

"After careful study and in co-operation with existing Social Service organisations, Churches and individuals, to support the formation of a separate united body for the pur-

pose of co-ordinating, collating and guiding such voluntary efforts towards a definite national concern in this matter."

The greater part of Morley Jacob's speech is printed *verbatim* in the article on page 193. At the end of it he said that it seemed possible, from the enquiries already carried out, to bring together all the forces at present delving into the facts of unemployment and its causes, and also those societies who were working to remedy this evil, and to form a central body for 'co-ordinating, collating and guiding' efforts to solve the problem. This new co-ordinating authority would be useful not only for directing the attention of the public anew to the matter, but would be the central agency for supplying to Toc H and to others the facts of the problem as they emerged, and the cures proposed.

F. WILLIS, in seconding the amendment, said that after consulting a group of friends of Toc H they had come to the conclusion that it was only an unfettered, 'unprofessional' body which could keep this matter before the public. He believed that, with the backing of the Council, it would be possible to form the organisation contemplated, to plan it carefully and run it in co-operation with existing organisations.

(At this point the discussion was adjourned until next day, and Councillors retired to sup together in a restaurant near Tower Hill. After supper the Toc H Choir, formed for the Birthday Festival last year, sang a number of songs to everyone's delight, under Dr. Sydney Northcote, their conductor.)

## Sunday, April 16

(Many Councillors began the day with Holy Communion in All Hallows, and breakfasted together afterwards at 42, Trinity Square. The adjourned discussion was resumed there at 11 a.m.)

### Unemployment—continued

G. J. MORLEY JACOB, seconded by F. WILLIS, desired to make a further amendment, by substituting for the last paragraph of the

Resolution ("Therefore we urge," etc.) and the Amendment ("After careful study," etc.), the following two paragraphs:—

"We therefore pledge ourselves to give consideration to the problem of unemployment and to endeavour, in our contact with Toc H, to direct the attention of its members to the causes and facts of unemployment, rather than merely to the relief of its effects.

"And we ask further that Toc H be officially represented at a Conference of interested voluntary societies (called together by the National Council of Social Service) at which

it is proposed to form a separate body for the purpose of co-ordinating, collating and guiding efforts towards a solution of the problem of Unemployment."

This Amendment was accepted as a basis for the further discussion.

J. HANAGHAN (Ireland Area Executive) described an experiment he had himself made by enrolling 1,700 men in an Unemployed Fellowship, which had formed a Members' Committee and obtained a column in the local press.

F. WILLIS said that the National Council of Social Service proposed to call a conference on Unemployment, at which Toc H would be represented, and T. P. HOLMES-WATKINS (South Wales) wished to support this. P. H. PRIOR (Kent Area Executive) thought the Resolution, in view of such a conference, unnecessary and ineffectual. This view was supported by HERBERT LEGGATE. If, after hours of discussion, he said, they passed this Resolution pledging themselves in the sight of God and man to do what normally they might be expected to do, they would be making a laughing-stock of themselves amongst the membership. The only good purpose served by the Resolution was that they had had the matter of Unemployment brought before them. It ought to mean that every man of them be urged to get in touch with his own political party and in that party do the work constantly and fervently.

The feeling that no Resolution should be passed was also strongly expressed by IAN FRASER (Pilot, Scottish Areas) and JIM BURFORD (Northern Area Secretary): the rest of these two speeches is printed *verbatim* on pages 194-6. ANGUS JOHNSTON (South Wales Area Secretary) supported the view of the two last speakers that any real attempt to find a solution to the problem of Unemployment must involve new methods. One of the first essentials was that Toc H and other men should be prepared to pay the cost of changes in order to bring about remedies. They must have a very real and personal concern over the problem and face realities.

The Resolution and Amendment were then withdrawn.

(At this point the meeting was adjourned and the Councillors walked across Tower Hill to All Hallows, where Padre Bobs Ford preached to them the 'Council Sermon.' They lunched together and reassembled at 2.30 p.m. for their final session.)

#### Simplification of Toc H Machinery

R. K. CANNING (Birmingham) referred to a letter by himself and others in the JOURNAL arguing that a distinction between Group and Branch status was no longer desirable.\* He believed that the membership generally considered the distinction of little importance and desired one kind of Toc H 'family' only, recognised, as a Group was at present, as soon as it showed signs of continuance. Whether it was called a Group, a Branch or a 'family,' was immaterial. The new arrangements regarding Lamps could easily be followed by a decision that existing Branches holding dedicated Lamps should keep them, and all other units should have a Lamp on loan from Headquarters in return for an annual fee. Rushlights could be dispensed with. Their use and the distinction between Groups and Branches was difficult to explain to visitors, who nearly always associated the idea of Toc H with the lighting of Lamps.

In view of that, they might have expected a straightforward proposal to do away with the distinction, but he preferred that the views of the whole membership should be considered with plenty of time allowed for them to find expression, because ample discussion there and throughout the whole family was likely to bring them to a common mind on the subject, and because considerable changes in organisation were involved, the effects of which should be studied concurrently.

At present, for instance, Groups recommended members for election, Branches elected them. No great hardship would be felt if the group procedure were standardised.

\* See JOURNAL, March 1939, p. 98, and further correspondence in April, p. 139. A copy of the original letter was circulated with the Council agenda.

At present Branches had two voting members on District teams and Groups one voting and one non-voting member. This was an unnecessary distinction, occasionally the cause of some heart-burning. Moreover, was it not a fact that the nearer District Teams approached to actual working as a team, the rarer were the occasions for voting? A team should work towards a common agreement, the chairman being able to integrate the ideas put forward, and should reach decisions in the Quaker style based on the sense of the meeting.

At present Branches were grouped for the purpose of electing Central Councillors, and other Councillors attempted to represent wide constituencies comprised of Groups only, which had developed common interests, not with each other but with the Branches in a number of separate Districts. This legacy of the days before Area Executives was anomalous, and would be better replaced by an extension of the ladder of representation, 'Families' electing representatives to district teams, the latter to Area Executives, and these last electing Central Councillors.

This, he believed, was a consummation Headquarters had devoutly wished, but it had not been possible without alterations to the Charter, which were troublesome and expensive, but might well be accomplished with the other alterations for which he expected discussion on this proposal would provide support.

These alterations would require to be the subject of special resolutions to be passed at two meetings of the Council. However, if the discussion and vote on this proposition showed that they were of opinion that the distinction between Group and Branch status was no longer desirable, he imagined that the Central Executive would include in the report they asked for the wording of the special resolutions required and call the necessary meetings. He formally proposed:

"That the Central Executive be asked to prepare a report on the changes of organisation necessary in order to abolish the distinction between Group and Branch status, and to publish it in the JOURNAL, at least four months before the next Council meeting, with their opinion of its desirability."

C. H. WAKE (Northern London Area Executive) thought they would all agree that, as a man should serve a probation before he became a member, there should still be some short probationary period for a gathering of men before they were actually handed a symbol. It might be convenient to retain two symbols, for the Branch and the probationary unit, for it was undesirable for people to be using condensed-milk tins in which to stick candles for 'Light.' But let them have no more nonsense about 'gropes'; let them return to the position of Branches and probationary units.

H. C. WIGLEY (Manchester Area Executive) said he supported the proposal to abolish distinctions, because he represented thirty or forty scattered Groups in Lancashire and had always regarded Toc H as one family, without distinctions.

BARCLAY BARON (Editorial Secretary) said that the Central Guard of the Lamp had been thinking about this matter of simplification for some time; it was nothing new to them. In 1922, when the Lamp was invented as a symbol, there were about 60 units, of which 40 seemed likely to make good and be permanent. Those 40 were given Lamps and called Branches; the others, which were reckoned as still on probation, were called Groups for the sake of convenience. The heresy about "winning your Lamp" as a goal, after which you could rest on your laurels, was not then foreseen. All that was intended was that recognised units of Toc H who wished to hold the Ceremony of Light should have some orderly and decent way of doing it. The next stage came when the probationary units called Groups expressed a desire to do the same. A different symbol was therefore produced for them, the Rushlight. A third stage threatened to arrive when people came along and said, "half a dozen of us have got together in the village to discuss starting Toc H" and a new term, 'Grope,' began unofficially to be talked about. Now they were trying to cut the gordian knot and get back to the position of 1922.

The Resolution was then passed, *nem. con.*



## Future Festivals and Lamplighting

THE CHAIRMAN said the proposal was to hold the next 'national' Festival in the summer of 1940 and to consider giving new Branches thereafter the opportunity of having their Lamps first lit at such festivals or at more local gatherings, each arranged by one or more Area Executives.

BARCLAY BARON, called upon to explain this, said he thought they should avoid having stereotyped Festivals. The variety of a summer Festival, for a change, would be a good thing. In the summer they got the best representation of the overseas membership—and there was real point in that. Given an English summer of average good temper, he thought a summer Festival would be more enjoyable than a winter one. With regard to giving new Branches "the opportunity of having their Lamps first lit at more local gatherings, each arranged by one or more Area Executives," he thought, again, that it would be a good thing to vary procedure. In any case the Branches which were to have their Lamps lit for the first time wanted them lit in some decent and rather solemn way. That had been done in the past at the Central Festival. It might, he thought, now be a good thing if Lamps were lit in a homelier kind of way at a more local kind of festival. Let them have an Area Festival at which Lamps could be lit by someone in the Area, a man who meant something to its members. The speaker added that the special reason why the annual lighting of Lamps had been held centrally for a number of years was personal and went deep. It was that a Foundation Member, then the Prince of Wales, was present to light the Lamps. Everyone wanted him to do it, and he did it: now he was no longer able to do that work for them. Since then they had had many worthy representatives of Toc H lighting the Lamps, but there was not quite the same feeling about it as in those earlier days. They hoped very much that at some future time the King, their present Patron, might be able to do it.

The principle was agreed without further discussion.

## General Membership

HUMPHREY CROOKENDEN (who has recently given up his work at the Bar and is acting as Central Members' Hon. Secretary) said that he wanted to make it plain that there was only one General Branch, but that for administrative purposes the members were divided into Central and Services, Area Members, Groups and the Residuary List. It was clear then that there could be no such thing as an 'Area General Branch': he was, then, only concerned with Area Members. He thought that such questions as eligibility for Area Membership, the details of transfer thereto, and the duties of Area Members' Secretaries were adequately dealt with by 'Membros' 5 and 6. The first point he wished to make was that 90 per cent. of Area Members had no time at all to give to Toc H, by reason of social work, or national service, or home or church ties. He thought it was the failure to appreciate that fact that had led to the disappointment of many who had tried to grapple with Area Membership at first hand. There was, of course, too, a certain amount of 'dead wood,' which new Area Members' Secretaries especially would have to spend a good deal of time in discovering and cutting out. As regards the other 10 per cent., some were men who might almost be called honorary part-time staff, and others were men in public positions whose influence could obviously be very useful to Toc H.

As he saw it there were two distinct problems about Area Membership: (1) what to do about the present Area Membership, and (2) how to set about the enlargement of the scope of Toc H membership. As Hubert's letter to Area Chairmen (printed in the January JOURNAL) had put it, "We must not limit the attraction of Toc H to those only who can attend a unit. Toc H needs every man who can serve it truly, and must give the opportunity to do so to all who will." He thought that a great number of people in Toc H did not realise how much it was bound up with the idea of the weekly meeting. He was anxious that they should put across to the membership the implications of

the idea that "Toc H was not a meeting place but a life."

With regard to the 'new idea' of enlarging the scope of membership there were four problems:

(1) *Recruitment.* There were those whose service to Toc H would be more effective if they were not burdened with the duty of attending a weekly meeting. Then there were quite a number of men doing social work of various kinds single-handed whom Toc H could help, and who could help Toc H, but whose membership could never be of the unit type; and there would be others who would provide valuable links between Toc H and other organisations.

(2) *Probation.* He thought that this was overdone at present, and that in any case a judicious selection of Toc H literature would teach a man more about Toc H and what Toc H was striving for than a weekly attendance at an indifferent unit.

(3) *Service: How to use people.* He thought that the great need in the matter of service for Area Members was for vision and imagination. If the senior men were captured for Toc H, the jobs they were asked to do must be big ones. They should come as a challenge and fire their enthusiasm.

(4) *The class problem.* He thought that there might be danger that they would have an 'upper' class in Toc H of Area Members, since the men they were trying to get hold of for the 'new idea' would be mainly black-coated workers and the public school type. They must never allow it to be said that men were Area Members because they were too superior to 'muck in' with the crowd.

All these problems the Areas must work out for themselves and just see what they could do about them.

As a last word on the 'new idea' he would like to sum it up in a vigorous phrase of Hubert's: "You need not attend a weekly meeting to build the Kingdom of God."

*Finance.* Two Councillors who were Area Members had complained that no one had asked them for their subscriptions or had otherwise corresponded with them about

Toc H matters for several years. He pointed out that about half a dozen Areas had not yet appointed Area Members' Secretaries, and that both the Councillors in question happened to belong to Areas which were among that half-dozen, so that when they condemned (as they had done) the whole Area Membership system, they were generalizing from the particular, and their condemnation could not be considered serious. It was unfortunately true that some bad appointments had been made, and there had been Area Members' Secretaries who had not got on with the job of keeping their Area Members up-to-date with their subscriptions. It was obviously worse than useless to appoint a man who was not going to do the job.

*Corporate sense among Area Members.* He did not believe it was practicable to produce a 'corporate sense,' and thought it was just a waste of energy trying to create it. Area Members had relatively very few opportunities of getting together.

*'District' Members.* This suggestion had been made by several people, but it would be a great mistake to make yet another kind of membership to waste the time of committees and sub-committees. The District Teams would, however, have a great part to play in making Area Membership a live part of Toc H, and there was no reason why Area Members should not be organised in Districts.

*'Attached' Members.* He hoped there would not be a discussion on this, as he was sure it would be fruitless. At a recent informal conference it had been agreed that complete abolition of 'attachments' was too drastic. The responsibility of looking after 'attached' as well as 'unattached' members should, however, rest on the Area Members' Secretary, to whom also all 'attached' members' subscriptions should be payable.

Lastly he said that of necessity he spoke from the point of view of the man in the office, and hoped that they would hear the views of some of those who were working 'in the field.'

MAYNE ELSON (Western Area Secretary) said he had been amazed to receive from the Central Elections Committee a question which ran something like this: "Have you anything like a complete record of information about your Area Members, or any information at all about them?" That revealed to him the magnitude of the problem, or at any rate the careless way in which some had handled it up to the present. It seemed to him that in this matter they had been forgetting the essential fact that they were dealing with men and not with names on a list. They had got into the habit of putting men into the General Membership class, as names on a list, and forgetting all about them. Incidentally it was exactly the same, he supposed, with Toc H Builders. The essence of the problem was that of personal contact, and they had not got that personal contact. Many men who had done fine work for Toc H had been lost sight of because family ties, business or ill-health had compelled them to retire to the General list. He felt sure that the shortage of senior men, men of influence, willing to undertake the responsibility for which they were so well fitted, was due largely to slackness or inefficiency in making contact with them.

Dr. C. J. MAGRATH (Vice-President) complained of the treatment of General Membership in the past. He knew of some in his own Area whose connection with Toc H had once been very strong and very keen, who were now only linked to the movement through the payment of an annual subscription. There must be hundreds of other cases which had gone by the board because no one had taken an interest in them. He held the view that the whole General Membership question should be dealt with centrally from Headquarters.

S. L. PEPPER (West Midlands), speaking as a man who had organised the General Members in Birmingham and as a General Member himself, said that they had tried a weekly meeting for General Members and had had an average attendance of ten or twelve, but they had not been able to keep it up: these men were too busy in the evening. He be-

lieved that they must get away from the 'club' idea, and go beyond the unit to the world outside. No one could be more useful to Toc H than the man who already had a position in the community. At present Toc H was losing him. He was inclined to agree with the previous speaker that something should be done to link up General Members with the centre.

A. R. PYM (representing General Members; Kent, Surrey and Sussex Area Executive) said that they had been told that General Members numbered about 3,000, but it was hard to get a list, with membership constantly changing. There was certainly a tremendous amount of ability and knowledge among them, of which very little was at present being used by Toc H.

M. DINWIDDIE (Scotland Area Executive) disagreed with the suggestion that General Members should be looked after by Headquarters, and thought there should be definite local responsibility for them. In his own Area they had organised a regular monthly lunch for General Members, at which the attendance was good. They also visited them in their homes and found them genuinely interested in Toc H.

E. E. GOODMAN (North-Western Area) did not agree that there should be no General Members 'attached.' His experience was that many who left a Branch after years of active service still wished to be attached to it.

J. F. ODELL (Southern London Area) instanced a class of General Member not yet mentioned—the young man in a unit who got married. It was idle and wrong to expect a man at that time to turn up at weekly meetings; he had other things to do. Such men ought to be looked after until they were in a position to take up active life in Toc H again. He did not agree that it was useless to try to get a 'corporate sense' among General Members, but busy men required long notice of a meeting to which they were invited.

Rev. H. F. SAWBRIDGE (Western Area Padre) emphasized the lapses in carrying out the scheme for General Members, and

J. W. BURFORD (Northern Area Secretary) thought that General Members themselves ought to do more to keep in touch.

THE CHAIRMAN, winding up the discussion, said that it had revealed a serious weakness in the way General Members were dealt with, and must have impressed on them the need for more fundamental thinking on the question.

#### The meeting ends

Before breaking up, the Council expressed its opinion that a meeting spread over two days had been a success, and decided to

repeat it in this form next year. Homegoing Prayers were led by HENRY BURSEY (Manchester Area Padre).

In the course of the meeting at 42, Trinity Square, and at the supper on Saturday five members had been called upon by the Chairman to speak briefly on their own particular work in Toc H. These were Col. B. H. BONHAM CARTER (India), Capt. L. F. HUBBARD, R.N.R. (on the Merchant Navy), GRIERSON TUCKEY (Kimberley, South Africa), Padre E. J. OTTEWELL (Shanghai) and R. N. ELLIOTT (Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia).

### A Vigil in Westminster Abbey

It will be remembered that Westminster Abbey was opened to the public day and night during the crisis of last September for continuous prayer. In view of the international situation the authorities of the Abbey decided to do the same again in April, beginning on Friday, April 14. At very short notice they applied to our Administrative Padre for help in the early stages, asking if Toc H members would undertake to keep continuous vigil in the Abbey from 11 p.m. to 8 a.m. on the nights of Friday-Saturday and Saturday-Sunday, April 14 and 15. We felt that this was a service we should undertake, and Mark I made themselves responsible for the first of these nights. Bobs Ford gave Central Councillors the opportunity of undertaking the second night and volunteers were forthcoming. Those who took on this duty found it to be a remarkable experience.



Many unemployed men win prizes with the vegetables that they produce and, naturally, the vegetables themselves make a considerable indirect contribution to a pitifully restricted family purse. If therefore you are in this situation and are then suddenly stricken down by an illness which will not let you prepare your ground, you are deprived not only of your health but also of your hobby and of your vegetables. There were several allotment-holders more or less in this predicament, and their joy at watching crops once more brought into the bounds of possibility by our spades was a treat to see. One old chap kept counting the potential rows of potatoes as we gradually worked through an extremely tough bit of ground which seemed not to have been dug for years.

Useful as our week's work probably was, the chief gain was our own. The humble

homes in which we lived had something about them of what homes ought to be—a kind of peace which is lacking in most homes of the more prosperous sort. It struck me that the people who lived in these homes had, for so many generations, been the clean, cheerful and highly generous people we found them to be that their very furniture had absorbed something of the same character. As it was a privilege to get to know them, so also, I felt, it was a privilege merely to sit gazing at their gleaming kitchen-ranges and to listen to the slow beat of the grandfather clock in the corner.

Here, in these homes, is preserved a spirit of quietness, strength and dignity which, for manifold reasons, can rarely be felt in the modern luxury-flats inhabited by those who have had what is commonly called "success." And yet that spirit is



worth infinitely more than constant hot water, vacuum-cleaners and all the "unrivalled" amenities and labour-saving devices which liberate us from toil and drudgery. I have to thank my friends in Lancashire for an unconscious but utterly convincing demonstration of the principle that people who have suffered no such liberation are likely to be freer in the true sense of the word.

Many of the impressions that I had during the course of the "Work Camp" cannot be expressed in words. The homeliness and calmness that I have mentioned, the uncomplaining cheerfulness and unselfishness of our hosts, the intense way in which they enjoyed a film of Gracie Fields which we took them to see, the conversations about everything under the sun that went on whilst we dug, and the deliciousness of the local dishes such as Hot-pot—all these were of the class of things which make one so happy that one despairs of conveying the impressions to anyone else. The only way of experiencing them is to go to a "Work Camp" oneself, and anyone who has a week to spare can do so. John Hoyland of Woodbrooke Settlement, Selly Oak, Birmingham, is the man to ask, and he would be happy to give particulars. He would, however, be still more happy if Toc H members and units would find opportunities of the same general kind in their own neighbourhood.

Valuable as the week was in other ways, it was no less worthy of praise when judged according to the standard of a healthy holiday. I staggered into Lancashire suffering from the cumulative effects of a long series of colds and attacks of 'flu. At the end of the week I was so fit that I wanted to find a suitable place to go and burst in.

For those to whom the idea of "Work Camps" appeals, it might be interesting to add the time-table of an ordinary day.

- 8.0 a.m. My hostess wakes me in no uncertain manner.
- 8.30 a.m. Breakfast.
- 9.15 a.m. We all meet in the house in "Pneumonia Street" to receive instructions about the day's work, to compare notes about things we have learnt and to listen to a short reading from the Bible.
- 9.30 a.m. Digging ('breathers,' refreshments, etc., taken as desired. There is no 'slave-driving').
- 12.45 p.m. Disperse to our billets for dinner.
- 1.0 p.m. More digging.
- 2.15 p.m. Go to someone else's billets for tea, a real 'blow-out.' We went to other people's billets and others came to ours so that, during the course of the week, all the visitors should meet all the hosts and hostesses.
- 6.30 p.m. A period for odd jobs such as letter-writing, shopping, exploring the vicinity or more or less anything.
- 8.30 p.m. Assemble in one of the houses of our hosts for talk and sing-song. There was no lack of invitations. On the last evening we had no less than four.
- 9.45 p.m. Return to billets. Cocoa or tea and 'door-steps' for supper. 'Door-steps' are chunks of bread and butter. Converse with your hosts up to whatever hour of the night you and they like. In some cases it was surprisingly late.

I should add that we paid our hosts 3/6 a day for board and lodging. Necessary expenses apart from that were negligible. The time-table may give an impression of strictness and regulations, but in reality nothing could have been easier or more elastic.

To conclude, a "Work Camp" is an unique experience. No institution or device that I have ever known has quite the same capacity for utterly removing barriers of every kind. And, perhaps largely on that account, I learnt more about the point-of-view of others, and about their loveliness, than I had learnt during years of living in my normal rut.

G. K. T.

### LETTERS FROM A LEPER COLONY—III.

*This month we publish an account by HAMISH MCGREGOR of the work of the Leper Colony at Itu, Southern Nigeria. Hamish, who is one of the Toc H B.E.L.R.A. volunteers, is due home on leave in July. Henry Coffin, late of Urmston Branch, sailed in April to relieve him.*

**F**OLLOWING our usual custom the New Year was welcomed in at our Watch Night Service when we again renewed our hopes and prayers for the work of the year which lay before us.

Later that same day the Annual Sports were held. Races—flat, hurdle, obstacle, sack, jumping, the greasy pole, tugs of war and the pillow fight, some native games, too, all very well patronised and the fun was fast and furious. The greatest laughter of the day occurred when the women, by force of superior numbers, out-pulled the men in the tug-o'-war. It will be a long time before the men forget, or are allowed to forget, that. The enthusiasm was even greater than in previous years.

The month of February will ever be remembered by all here. In that month we were able to send home 191 patients, men, women and children, as being free from all signs and symptoms of the disease. The scene at the morning service on Sunday, February 6, was amazing—those leaving happy in their new-found health, those remaining encouraged and strengthened in their hopes. This number is the largest we have yet been able to send home. Of those

who went home many are doing useful work outside; some are running an out-patient dispensary and welfare work under the supervision of one of our district missionaries and doing valuable work there; others have obtained responsible posts in similar work and the rest have returned to their previous vocations. Three are employed in the Colony itself, one as a laboratory assistant, another

as an engineer, and the other as headmaster in our school. All received their training in the Colony and are, we are sure, proving a credit to it. We are convinced that they are the finest means of propaganda possible. No amount of persuasion can accomplish that which an ex-leper now clean can by merely returning to his town and showing himself.

This is the type

of propaganda which appeals to all peoples and the people of this country are not slow to respond to it.

Clem Wills was sent out in March under the auspices of the B.E.L.R.A. Toc H scheme and has become a valuable member of the staff and life of the Colony.

During the year a new wing has been added to the existing hospital. It contains two large wards, one small one, and various



*Waiting for help.*

siderooms, allowing of a further 40 beds. This extension is most essential in view of our ever-increasing numbers. Points worthy of note are: the labour was entirely leper labour, the lepers made the kiln-burnt bricks with which it is built, and of the timber used more than two-thirds was cut within the Colony. This extension is a building of which we are justifiably proud and it marks the beginning of a new era within the Colony in which we can rely upon our patients to erect the necessary building and furthermore to make the bricks for the building. It is the first kiln-burnt brick building in the Colony.

The increasing roll of patients also means an increase in the need for farms, and this in turn calls for larger agricultural and industrial activities. We are now building new workshops which will house and centralise all of our different works. This will mean that the palm oil, timber mill, carpentry, food and power departments will be under one roof along with various other works and the palm oil plant and steam engine too. This palm oil plant and steam engine were bought from Messrs. G. B. Ollivant Ikorofiong on most reasonable terms. It had been lying there unused for some years and is now in the Colony and almost ready for use. We need a boiler to generate the steam for this machinery and negotiations are now in progress. Once this machinery is going it will mean a considerable advance in our methods, for it will supply power for all of the various jobs which require it and thus release hand labour for the work of the other jobs which are increasing as we clear the land obtained in 1937.

The water scheme came under review and is now being renewed, and this year we shall be able to supply filtered water to every part of the residential area of the Colony. This has entailed the building of sand filter beds at the reservoir, a main supply tank from which the water will be pumped to other smaller tanks which in turn will provide the towns with a plentiful supply of water. This scheme is extremely valuable in many ways and is a most worthy addition to the welfare and advance of the Colony.

Another new town is in process of erection, about fifty houses, accommodating 200 people, being built at present. Additions have also been made to the Women's Town, and the infective and non-infective cases are now separated. These extensions are most necessary in view of the number of new admissions continually arriving.

A point of particular interest is revealed in our roll. During the year we have admitted more than 60 children, aged from 5-14 years. This we take as being indicative of the growing realisation of the people of this country that leprosy is a very real danger and that it can be treated. On these grounds we welcome it and trust that it may spread further and more rapidly.

As a result of the increase in the admission of children our schools are now overcrowded and a new building is necessary. It is hoped to build one this year. Both morning school (children) and the adult evening classes continue to be well attended and to do good work. The children are taught, apart from the usual curriculum, some handicrafts with a view to assisting them when they are able to leave the Colony. The adult evening classes maintain their interest and it is particularly encouraging to see that a number of men and women, having attained proficiency in their own languages, are going to a special English class which was created at their own request.

The work of the church is still the centre around which the whole of the work of the Colony revolves. The congregations are now overflowing the building and a new wing is to be added soon. The Sunday Schools and Bible Classes are very well attended and do very good work amongst the people. The spiritual life of the Colony is the mainspring of our activities and by it the whole work is inspired and encouraged.

The treatment continues on the whole to do good. There are some who, in spite of all medication, do not improve, but in general we can say that it is of great value to the majority of our patients. At present the annual review of patients is taking place and, whilst we do not expect to send home as

many as we did in February, we hope to send at least 100.

The Colony has now been in existence ten years. Great changes have taken place and the developments have been unprecedented. From a small site in dense tropical forest it has now expanded to a large estate of three square miles, most of which has been cleared for farms, oil palm cultivation, and timber cutting. Hundreds of houses have been erected, giving accommodation to over 2,000 lepers. Buildings are there for Church,

Schools, Scouts, Guides, for carpentry, palm oil and various other industries, a Hospital with room for 100 beds, dispensary and treatment sheds, laboratory and stores, etc. Water has been laid on and electric light installed.

The first patient has been followed by 5,000 others and we feel that the work has been well worth while. Hope has been given to the hopeless and hundreds set free from the most dreaded scourge in Nigeria.

HAMISH MCGREGOR.

## MULTUM IN PARVO

✽ The Annual Meeting of the CENTRAL COUNCIL will be held on April 20 and 21, 1940.

✽ The WORLD CHAIN OF LIGHT will be observed this year on December 11 and 12, starting in New Zealand at 9 p.m. by local time on December 11.

✽ In order that members and probationers, aged 20-21, who are being "called up," may be helped to keep in touch with Toc H during their military training, Branch and Group Secretaries are asked to send a card to The Secretaries for the Services, 47, Francis Street, London, S.W.1, as soon as they know the address of each new Militiaman. Attention is drawn to the article in this number on "SERVING THE MILITIAMEN."

✽ OVERSEA MEMBERS home on leave will be welcome at the Chilterns Area Rally at Eton College, Windsor, from 3 to 8.30 p.m. on Saturday, June 10. Tickets from the Chilterns Area Pilot, 47, Francis Street, S.W.1.

✽ The Annual Overseas Guest-night will be held in London at Mark I, 24, Pembridge Gardens, W.2, on Wednesday, June 28. Tubby will be speaking and all members from overseas will be welcome.

✽ The many friends of Padre OWEN WATKINS, who has undergone a severe operation since his return from South Africa, will

be glad to know that he is about again, looking as fit as ever.

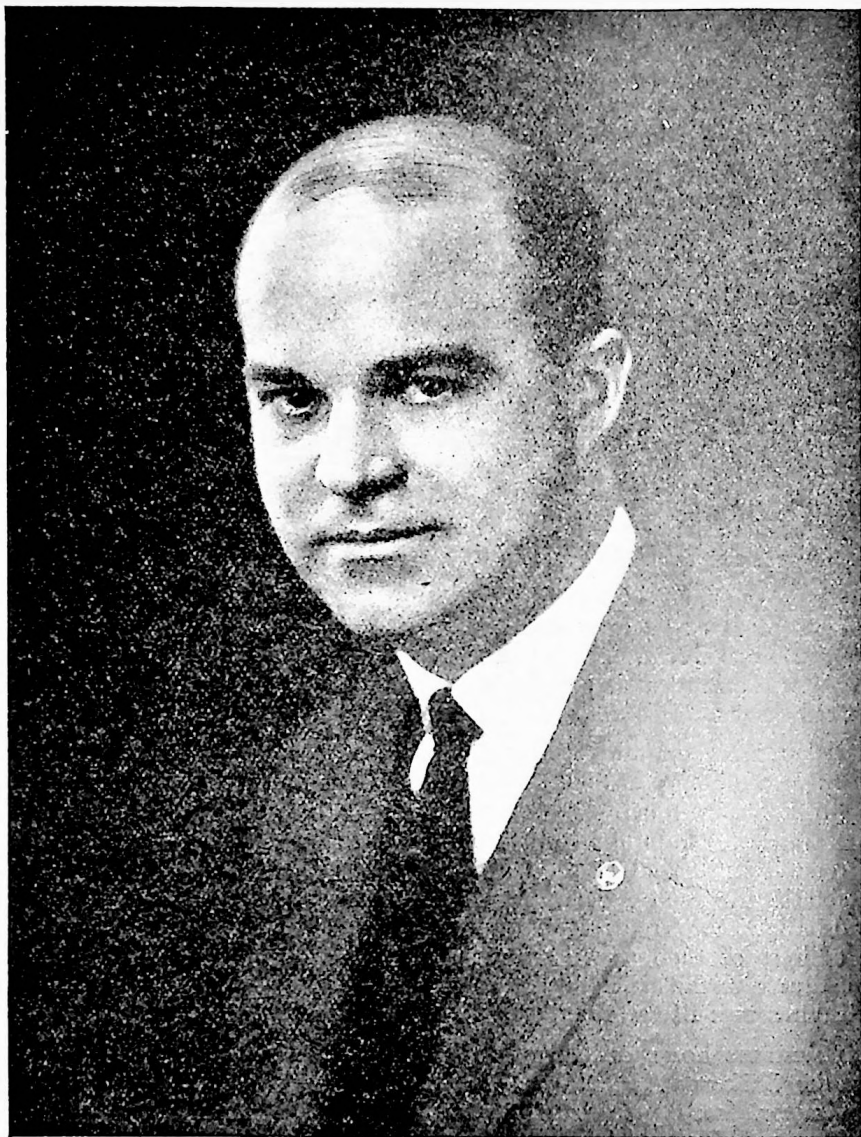
✽ W. H. McVICKER, Overseas Secretary at the Headquarters of the Boys' Brigade, will be travelling in Southern Africa from June 15 to August 25.

✽ JOHN BOSTOCK (Manchester) has been co-opted as a member of the Central Executive for 1939-40.

✽ BRIAN BILLINGS (New South Wales Area Secretary) has been appointed Australian Secretary and, after handing over his duties in Sydney to MICHAEL FURNISS (formerly Queensland Area Secretary), will be visiting Brisbane and other parts of the Commonwealth.

✽ NORMAN MCPHERSON, now Area Pilot in Ireland, has begun his duties in pastoral charge of York Street Congregational Church, Dublin. Communications for the Irish Area Executive should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, C. KING, 34, Grangeville Gardens, Finaghy, Belfast.

✽ LAMPETER Group (South Wales) has been promoted to Branch status, and the following Groups have been recognised recently: *Breedon-on-the-Hill* and *Bosworth-cum-Theddingworth* (East Midlands Area), *Ledbury* and *Whitnash* (West Midlands Area), *Boosbeck* (Northern Area) and *Tarrant Keynston* (Southern Area).



Very sincerely yours.  
Peyton Grant.



## PRYOR McNEIL GRANT MEMORIAL FUND

In the January JOURNAL we announced the death, on December 16 last year, of Pryor Grant, of New York, an Hon. Association Padre of Toc H and its senior member in the United States. In February we published a brief note about him (p. 93), and in March two appreciations of him appeared, one from TUBBY, and one from a merchant sailor—one of his innumerable "boys" (p. 121-4).

His friends in New York, particularly those associated with him in the work of the Boys' Bureau which he formed, have now decided to commemorate his spirit and example by establishing a Memorial Fund by means of which the continuance and exten-

sion of his work for boys can be insured. It is intended to use the Fund for special projects, additional to the regular work of the Bureau, such as will "most nearly carry out the spirit and interest of his life." It is certain that no more fitting form of memorial could have been devised.

Pryor Grant had many friends in England and attended the Coming-of-Age Festival in 1936. He took charge of All Hallows Church for some time in Tubby's absence. Any of his Toc H friends who would care to contribute to the Memorial Fund are invited to send their donations to the Editor, Toc H JOURNAL, 47, Francis Street, London, S.W.1.

## THE ELDER BRETHREN

CATHELS.—On Easter Day, 1939, the Reverend LOUIS PATRICK CATHELS, padre of Peterhead Group. Aged 52. Elected 6.2.33.

COOKE.—On April 7, 1939, ARTHUR COOKE, a probationer of West Sheffield Branch. Aged 79.

CURRY.—On April 10, 1939, ALBERT WILLIAM CURRY, a member of Seaford Branch. Elected 5.10.37.

ELLIOTT.—On February 22, 1939, WILLIAM ELLIOTT, a member of Preston Hall Group. Elected 4.7.29.

GARDNER.—On March 20, 1939, GEORGE GARDNER, a member of Bethnal Green Branch. Elected 5.10.28.

HARRIS.—On March 29, 1939, RUPERT HARRIS, Jobmaster of Corsham Branch. Elected 21.5.36.

HEALEY.—On April 5, 1939, FRED HEALEY, a member of Faversham Branch. Aged 61. Elected 18.7.35.

LEWIS.—On March 17, 1939, HARRY GEORGE LEWIS, a member of Knotty Ash Group. Aged 46. Elected 7.12.38.

MORRISON.—In May, 1939, CHRISTOPHER MORRISON, a member of Partick Group. Elected 25.9.31.

SOUTHALL.—On April 8, 1939, THOMAS CYRIL SOUTHALL, a member of Lye Branch. Elected 25.5.36.

STANISFORTH.—On April 25, 1939, HENRY STANISFORTH, a member of Hillsborough Branch. Aged 64. Elected 27.6.35.

WADE.—On March 29, 1939, the Reverend Canon RALPH PORTER WADE, a member of Cleethorpes Branch. Elected 8.6.38.

### Timothy Rees, Bishop of Llandaff

When Timothy Rees, for eight years Bishop of Llandaff, passed over on April 29, after long illness, Toc H lost an old and most sincere friend. He was a welcome figure in the Old House in 1916. In 1931, for a week in February, he captained the 'Work of Courage,' the All Hallows mission in the old church, among the dinner-hour crowds on Tower Hill, in the London Marks and elsewhere, and many a member can still recall the impression his speech and presence made upon them at Tubby's 'Pancake Party' in the Royal Horticultural Hall as the mission was about to begin. As a Chaplain in war-time, as a parish priest in Wales, as Principal of the Community at Mirfield, as a Bishop, he was outstanding, a man of faith and action. Above all he was a great evangelist, proclaiming the secret by which he lived.

# THE FAMILY CHRONICLE

## From the Northern Area

THE North-East Coast is that part of England which first welcomes the deep depressions that come from Iceland, and that part of the coast of England which bravely faces the unbroken North-East winds that rush unhindered over 800 miles of sea—North Yorkshire, Durham, Northumberland—strong names, romantic and rugged, a land whose stones are iron, and in whose hills you may dig coal. From that land, and of its people, comes this dispatch.

One of the lives of General Gordon (I do not mean to say that Gordon had nine lives like a cat!—I am thinking of books) begins by saying something of an old lady who was asked how she was. She replied that she had rheumatism, a pain in the head, and some internal trouble, but she supposed that she was too big to be well all at once! I suppose most Toc H Areas have their sick points, perhaps because they also are too big to be well all at once. So it is useless to pretend that all is absolutely well in the Northern Area. That does not worry the writer; he is philosophical enough to know that whenever he sees a perfect movement, or a perfect set of men, one of two things has happened—either he is beholding an unexpected miracle, or his eyes have gone wonky! He is practical enough to know that there are spots on the sun. Therefore, an Area Dispatch will, like the New Testament, speak of things as they are, besides limning things as he hopes they will be.

Dave Guthrie of *Newcastle Branch* has done a startling thing. He has produced a new and singable song, having skilfully attuned A.R.P. to the Lambeth Walk, which reminds me of the two Geordies at Benwell, not far from Mark XVIII, who in the hectic days of the 45's (I mean last September!) dug a trench, and later on had to fill it in only to find that they could not replace all the earth. Whereupon one said to the other, "I told thee, man, that if we dug it two feet deeper at the start we could have put everything back in!" Be that as it may, there is

something to be said for digging deeper, and the Northern Area, instead of spreading itself has been busy entrenching, digging its way through the crust of formalism, and the clay of custom, to the living loam and life-giving waters that are underneath, and are beginning now to show that while the leaves of a tree have much to do with the life of the tree, the roots are not unimportant.

The writer has lived to rejoice to see some units drop a rather shallow, discussional, self-opinionated attitude, and begin to develop a more natural, enquiring and teachable manner. The Northern Area is showing evidences now that it understands that what Toc H *does* is not Toc H, and that when the various oddities, and peculiarities, and ways of doing things are examined, they are driven back to the permanent elements of the matter which were described in 1887 by Bishop Boyd Carpenter in his Bampton Lectures as Dependence, Fellowship and Service. The Bishop was certainly half a century ahead of us in forming our Compass.

The man who usually wears my shoes said that if another man stood on his head in the market-place that was no reason why he should do so. It might be a very good reason why he should not. Which means that because a thing was not said and done two years ago, there is no reason, because of that, for saying that it should not be done now, but rather a reason why it should be. So remembering that we have not hitherto said much of separate happenings in the Area, after the fashion of a catalogue of events, we are this time going to do so, saving ourselves from a scolding by remarking that we are not giving a complete catalogue but just some indications to people outside the Area of how the Family fares in the North-East.

The first distinctive happening to record is that we now worship both in Jerusalem and Gerizim!—which means that the Area Executive no longer centres exclusively on Newcastle, but alternates betwixt Tyne and Tees. Please do not ask me which of the two

is Jerusalem—I don't know!

Yeats, in his poem "Innisfree," writes of "nine bean rows." The Northern Area once had nine Districts, but the nine have now merged into six. You can turn a nine into a six by upsetting it, but the Northern Area was not upset by this transformation. We find it was rather a setting-up, strengthening, and an advantage.

We are looking and working in several places either for a start or a re-start of Toc H, and one or two places, *Morpeth*, for instance, have died down. We can, however, say that a number of groups seem to be now ready to become Branches. *Saltburn* received a Lamp last December. It is evident that Cleveland District shows evidences of expansion, for only last week *Boosbeck* received its Rushlight, which was declared to be by one man the greatest event in that village for twenty-five years. We hope it will prove to be so.

We formed a Builders' Council with a Northern and Southern Secretary, but one got married and the other faded away! It makes no difference, we are still looking for Secretaries, but that does not mean that the Builders' question is forgotten, for the Area Office rushed in where others did not tread, wrote a letter to all the units, and, lo and behold! even this morning, *Billingham*—little, if not least of the tribes of Judah— informed us that they have caught some Builders, and request forms! So what can be done in *Billingham* can reasonably be expected to be done in other places, so our hope of Builders now becomes a real expectation. (An expectation which by this afternoon's post becomes a reality, for *Guisborough* produces a Builder!)

By taking pains, although it was a real pleasure, we have been able in the Northern Area to bring into being the actuality of an Area General Branch, and I do not think there are now any members floating loosely whose names are not known and who are not kept in touch with the rest of the Family. The Secretary of the Area General Branch is most grateful to record that their contributions reveal an increase on past years.

Money talks, but I am speaking of it. When you get a letter in the morning be sure that the price of the stamp is no indication of the value of the communication, for as stars differ from one another in their glory, so also do postal communications. Sometime ago I opened one which was all aglow with the glory of God reflected in the action of one man. The action betokened an idea, an idea that seemed worthy of being recorded by a poet instead of a hum-drum unskilful prose writer. The envelope contained five pounds, and a letter which conveyed an explanation of this sum, and of the idea, which was made real in the five pounds. The sender, following his usual avocation, had received, as a result of what I should call Toc H attention to his work, promotion, which carried with it an increase of salary, and he, because he loves Toc H and would do much to provide for its maintenance and extension, decided to send the first instalment of his wage-increase to the General Funds, together with the idea, for what it is worth, that maybe other men might feel inclined to offer, as occasion arises in their life, some kind of a first-fruit offering after this kind. He insists that his name be suppressed. I respect his request, reminding him and readers that you can do a lot of good in the world if you are not careful as to who gets the credit and praise.

The catalogue of events that I threatened is likely to be more incomplete than I anticipated.

A graceful and beautiful thing has taken place at *Redcar*, for by the kind invitation of the aged Marchioness of Zetland, to whose husband the Redcar Lamp is dedicated, their Re-dedication Service was held in her home—*Marske Hall*.

*Gateshead*, having their eye to business, are no longer paying rent, but are buying their own house, and doing it in a business-like manner. Much labour and care has been taken to make the place a worthy centre of Toc H activities in *Gateshead*. A week or two ago it was officially opened by Colonel Atkinson—the Area Chairman—who found time in the midst of many duties to come;

and not merely to open the House, but to open his heart to us, revealing himself to us in a way hitherto not known.

*Blackhill* have taken over the waiting-room of the partly abandoned railway station. I have an idea it is on the up platform.

*Easington*, which were never at ease about a meeting place, have also now a home of their own. With the consequence that the drifters are returning, and even the Area Secretary knows where to go for the District Meeting!

The Hartlepool Football Team is, I believe, way down at the bottom of the football world at the moment, but *Hartlepool* Toc H have been for some time on top of the football world, in that they have been the means of relaying accounts of football matches to the patients of Hospitals. Something, I believe, quite new, and something which I am sure is really good and worth emulating.

North Durham and Northumberland Districts have had Conferences with the Tyneside Council of Social Service, and also the Borstal Association. A clearer understanding and closer contact now exists.

The old people at *Gosforth* who were taken in private cars to Hulne Abbey for an afternoon were greatly cheered by her Grace the Duchess of Northumberland, who came across from Alnwick Castle to meet them and shake them by the hand. It was a wet day, but nevertheless one that the old people will not readily forget. As one old lady remarked during the drive from Gosforth to Alnwick, "Please do not hurry, I have never ridden in a car before. I am not afraid, but it is years since I was in the country." *Chester-le-Street* also arranged a similar event to the seaside at Roker. On this occasion the sun shone graciously, and despite the morning's fear, there were more conveyances than old people! Whereupon, 'his nibs' the Jobmaster rounded up some more old folk, presumably from the local Institution, and the cars and our joy were filled.

We are happy to say that the North is getting more awake to the matter of Leprosy, and fellows like Jim Dawson are continually arranging small meetings with a view to larger things later in support of the Leprosy Movement. *Gosforth*, following a small meeting, made a bigger effort, which produced a clear £8 10s. 0d. A creditable performance, and worthy of note. Others, too, have made good efforts, and this all indicates that Toc H is forming, on this question, the needed body of public opinion.

The Oil Companies' Benevolent Scheme still remembers, and does much for, the distressed people in this Area, and we had the joy of receiving at Christmas not merely parcels of good fare, but also some of the finest hand-knitted garments that were possible (incidentally, that statement is not based upon authority of a mere man!). There is now in existence all the requisites in the form of buildings, etc., for a real Community Centre in the town of South Shields with Ronnie Wraith as its first Warden.

Whether we like it or otherwise the military forces of this country are being increased. Our *Richmond* and *Catterick* units valiantly do what they can for the teeming thousands at Catterick Camp, but we feel that the time has arrived that a real house should be fixed in Catterick after the fashion of the Old House, into which can come, under all conditions, those men who by the nature of their avocation and call, miss much of that which hitherto has been normal in their lives. We hope that those in a position to consider this will regard it in the light of an appeal.

And now, not because there is nothing more to be said, but because, perhaps, enough has been said for this time, the Northern Area ends its dispatch, and as it were, begins again to work towards the making of another.

JIM BURFORD.

### From South American Waters

These extracts from a letter to the Services office from Leading Seaman W. J. R. Gumbledon, serving in H.M.S. *Exeter* on

the South American station, give an excellent idea of how a member in the Royal Navy keeps in touch with Toc H. He

writes from Bermuda:—

"It's time again that I wrote you a few lines to let you know just how things are getting on out here, starting from January when we were on our way up the West Coast of South America. We arrived in Valparaiso looking forward to a well-earned holiday, so the *Toc H Exeter* decided to travel to Santiago and pay the team there a visit. But, I am sorry to say, that terrible earthquake occurred in the place where we had been staying just previously. Of course, we were immediately ordered to Talcahuano to offer our assistance which, if I may say so, was readily accepted.

"The Ship's Company did much good work up at Concepcion, eight miles from Talcahuano, where the effect of the earthquake was very much felt. The *Toc H*'ers on board were greatly surprised when an old acquaintance was discovered amongst the refugees whom we took back to Valparaiso. He was Robert Young, a blind man from St. Dunstan's. He was touring and lecturing in South America and we met him first at Lomas de Zamora in Buenos Aires. The ship made two trips with refugees from Talcahuano to Valparaiso and at the end of each trip members of the Craddock Branch were always on the scene ready to do what they could. They did a heap of good work, especially in view of the fact that the majority of the refugees had little or nothing in the way of personal effects.

"During our stay at Valpo. we were lucky enough to have the chance to conduct a meeting at the house of Mr. David Blair, the Hon. Commissioner for Chile. It was a most

instructive and interesting evening and at the end developed into a series of "tallest stories" spun by various of the members present.

"The long-awaited diaries arrived at Balboa just before our passage through the Panama Canal. Called at Jamaica and made contact there, the meeting being a 'grouzers' night,' which proved very interesting. They were making preparations for H.E. The Governor's visit, having invited him to their anniversary night. From there we made our way to Bermuda, the Isle of Enchantment and Rest, although the Naval adjectives are inclined to differ slightly.

"I visited Lieutenant-Commander Hunt, at present serving in H.M.S. *Berwick*, and put the question of starting something here in Bermuda to him—in other words, having a try once more. A Sergeant Ford of the Royal Engineers stationed at Hamilton was discovered and he had already made some progress on his own. Everyone sees good prospects here now. Several influential people have been interviewed, including Canon Thomas of the Cathedral. At present they are just waiting for the when and where to meet. Ford has made several contacts over on that side of the water with people who have been in touch with *Toc H* before. I will let you know as soon as there are any further developments.

"I am afraid that we have seen all of *Toc H* that we are going to see until we get home, and I am sure that everyone we have seen has made a thorough job of Disowning Discouragement and proving that *Toc H* is not just something to lean on."

### From the Southern Area

What can possibly have happened in this Area during the last 12 months to interest folk outside? Are you interested in the news that a Guest-night was held at Hogs Norton (with apologies!) at which 70 members of *Toc H* and two guests were present? Or that we have five men "groping" (with apologies again, in another direction) at Nether Backwash? But wait—something

may be achieved if you read of *Toc H* starting in the village where your brother-in-law, to whom you have spoken so much about *Toc H*, lives, and who is rather thrilled by the idea but "nowhere near a unit." Do you ever send these contacts to another Area Secretary?

Well, here goes for a brief survey of *Toc H* life in the most southerly Area of the British



Isles, with the most beautiful Mark. And with the Mark we will begin. During the past 15 months Reg Staton has been Pilot resident at *Mark V*, and certain experiments have been made. They are not new but have seemed so to some people in the south. An attempt has again been made to interest the Area in the Mark with some success, for after one visit the beautiful grounds and quiet woods form their own attraction. The Mark itself is better known in the Town, and a good team of Hostellers has been gathered. One new job of work is being done by Reg—the welcoming of men returning on troopships from service abroad. They have been most grateful to have this early indication of the “family spirit” on their return home, and have all the more sought out their home units. The grounds of the Mark were used by five outside organisations for their summer garden parties, and some delightful friendships were formed between us and our visitors.

Since our last report 12 months ago, the Area has increased in size. Part of Dorset which used to come within the South-Western Area has been brought into this one, and thus the strong *Weymouth Branch*, Groups at *Dorchester* and *Bovington Camp*, and a 100 per cent. service team at *Warmwell* have become ‘ours.’ They, with *Swanage Group*, have formed the South Dorset District and if the first Team meetings are any true indication of what is to come, we have a most vital team there. In the north *Basingstoke* and *Newbury* have separated to become the centres of two new districts, and new enthusiasm is obvious in both teams, small groups of men meeting “with a view” at both Hook and Thatcham. This report would not be complete without an Obituary, and we are sorry to say that for the time being Toc H has closed down in *Fawley* and *Cowplain*, while through sweeping Service changes it has been necessary for Rushlights to be returned at *Worthy Down*, the R.A.F. station, and *Tidworth Plain*. Two Units have voluntarily become Lone Units with a view to building a district around themselves, *Alton* and *Winchester*, and the Executive has made a new departure in setting men

aside to cultivate development in parts of the Area where there is no Toc H (we have such parts, I’m afraid). In connection with this we have conspired with some of our members who are known as “commercial” to spy out the land for us.

The usual activities have gone on: some excellent Guest-nights have been held where we have tried to get our point of view across to those outside. We are bearing in mind that shrewd criticism made at the Central Council that “the quality and extent of our General membership is an indication of how far Toc H is permeating the community.” A number of Districts held summer rallies and garden parties and others held Training Week-ends which were amongst the most delightful and fruitful gatherings of the whole year. The Staff records with regret that a certain lack of respect was shown them, but a “good time was had by all.” Without doubt the outstanding experience for one bunch of men was the Pilgrimage last September. It was the last of the year and as the date suggests we went abroad at the time when the clouds over Europe were at their blackest. The atmosphere of tension and apparent imminence of war were oppressive, but helped us in one way. The issues stood out clearly, and against this background we talked about Toc H and its spirit. As one member put it quietly—“Toc H must be concerned with major problems, not trivialities.” In the months that have followed the crisis, we have tried to face this fact in our gatherings; it has not always been easy in meetings made small by “ARP-itis” and overtime through increased shipbuilding.

Some good progress has been shown in the Services. Col. G. R. Rae has been invaluable as Hon. Commissioner for the Services, and gained an entry to C.O.s and made friends in a way difficult to the layman. He bestowed the Rushlight at *Warmwell* in March (we give all the credit for the preliminary spadework to our sister Area, the South-Western) and is watching the new venture at Netley Hospital, a most encouraging one. Much thought has been given to the needs of Aldershot, where Toc H is not represented

to-day, and plans are being now worked out for a permanent house there where something like the work of the Old House may be done. How much this is needed!

Growth? Yes, we have grown a little, although not much. Two Groups were given Branch status, *Carisbrooke* and *W. and E. Cowes*, this latter a joyous occasion when the Ratsey Lamp originally given in 1929, was brought home again. Throughout the Isle of Wight, indeed, the name of Toc H stands high. Eight units keep the light burning, and we are being increasingly called on for help and advice. The Bournemouth district shows a year of achievement. The fine scheme to help Southchurch in County Durham was brought to a climax with the building and opening of the Bournemouth Hall, a centre for all village activities in that place where unemployment has been as high as 90 per cent. And relations have not been confined to "charity" (in the narrow sense). Through Toc H some 30 families have been adopted by folk in Bournemouth, and a continuous interchange of visits made.

The great success of this district job has had a marked effect in the men in Toc H; feeling their strength when united, they have gone straight on to supporting B.E.L.R.A., and this Whitsun the exhibition comes south, and much propaganda has been undertaken to rouse the inhabitants to the importance of this work. It does not mean that the previous job is finished with, but rather that a wider vision of service has come and it is being interpreted. South Dorset has already been mentioned: the rest of the county shows a most encouraging expansion in Toc H life. The Eastern district has borne two children, *Cranborne* and *Tarrant Keynston*. One thing should be said here: Dorset took to Toc H but slowly, but having grasped the essentials, it likes it! Recently we have had cause to be very thankful for the transfer of several Padres to villages in the county. Much of the present expansion is round Padres who have learned their Toc H in other parts of England, and teams they are gathering to themselves. An interesting tendency has shown itself here recently:

from being too "serious" the units have decided to watch the social side of Toc H more, so that games and outings will not be tabu, and ladies occasionally seen in the "sacred precincts" of Toc H Rooms.

In Southampton we find the Talbot House Club for Seafaring Boys. This had a most successful year under Jack Clark, and many more units are taking an interest. Its appeal should be far wider in Toc H than it is, for here is the only residential club for sea-going boys in the world, and its success is gauged by the number of "old boys" that it counts—nearly 1,000. In this district two Groups have been started during the year—*Redbridge* and *Eastleigh*. *Portsmouth* possesses a house of its own now, of which more will be heard. "No. 13" is becoming familiar in the South of England. When two or three sailors came back from abroad a year or two ago they started at their own expense a small house on the lines of Sliema House, Malta. Here civilians and naval men mix freely and live together, under the genial guardianship of C.P.O. Charles Brownjohn. The district holds the new venture in much affection and men drop in at all times.

The Channel Islands provide the Staff here with an occasional thrill. It is with a sense of adventure that we embark either on an air liner or boat for this outpost of our Area, which we term overseas. There is Toc H in both *Jersey* and *Guernsey*, and both units are thriving concerns. *Jersey* has given particular attention to recruiting young fellows, and their list of probationers gives food for thought. *Guernsey* is an older Branch and is responsible for a thriving Boys' Club and some excellent personal service in the Island. There are possibilities here of an extension to St. Martin's very soon. What more shall we say then? For time would fail me to tell of . . .

Certain units and districts have not been mentioned, for they pursue "the even tenor of their way": suffice to say that small 'groves' of men are meeting at Netley Hospital, Fareham, Cosham (Portsmouth), Thatcham (Berks), Camberley (Surrey), Harnham (a suburb of Salisbury), Portland, and Havant, with the intention of forming

Toc H Units in the Area, in the case of Havant, co-operating with men from the Surrey and Sussex Areas.

To conclude, certain tendencies in Toc H in this Area have become clear during the last week-end when the Area Executive met for its first meeting of the new year and lived together for 24 hours. The happy fellowship which this created is an excellent augury for the work of the new Executive, and none of us can estimate how much has been achieved already in the friendships formed in that day's conference. Problems of leadership were discussed, including the criticism of one District that Toc H was suffering from "a surfeit of officers so that its members could not make their proper contribution to the community." The Executive has realised that the true conception of leadership must be given from the centre, and two new methods of working in the sub-committees, for example, are being introduced. In face of the possible reduction of

Staff, members are assuming much more responsibility towards District Teams, and a system of "Visitors" has been begun, whereby certain men whose knowledge of Toc H has been proved are taking certain District Teams under their wing for regular attendance. The response from the Area has been most encouraging, and the system seems to be appreciated. It was good to hear that where Toc H has been able to take a responsible part in forming public committees of various sorts for social work, increased prestige has come to the name of Toc H, and both financial and moral support for our work. In certain of the Districts the atmosphere is wholly changed, and humour leavens the meetings much more than previously. While it is dangerous to speak generally, it is true in great part that the current crisis is being interpreted in Toc H more in terms of opportunity than failure. Here lies the hope for a better and stronger type of Toc H. K. B.

### From the North Wales Division

Surveying the work of the past year one is inevitably reminded of going up to the trenches o' nights over fields slippery with the grease of mud—you know, three steps forward and two backward, with mouths panting imprecations as well as breath. But we got there finally, dropping our burdens as Christian dropped his, and feeling that the arrival was worth the journey. (Or did we?) There was progress here, and ground lost elsewhere, units that went off with a bang living to "feel the draught" from the windy, perforated drum that had been thumped mightily rather than skilfully, and other growths beginning timidly like violets and ending (no, not ending, nothing ends in Toc H) burgeoning like the rose. Three steps forward and two backward. But still we go on, mostly in the right direction, sometimes with our hearts where only our feet should be and at other times with it in its right place, thumping with courage.

And courage! What of the courage of Sergt. C. W. Wilkinson ("Gunner" of the

*Bangor Branch*) which bade him perform the highest of Toc H jobs—to give his life for others! Rung up on the 'phone one night at the hotel in Anglesey where he was employed, he was told that some children were on the beach and in danger of being cut off by the tide. He got out his bicycle. He rode across the sands looking for the children—who, unknown to him, had already reached safety—and was overwhelmed by the tide and drowned. The last seen of him was the light of his bicycle lamp . . . "Let your light so shine before men . . ." Toc H was shocked by the tragedy, but it made them proud, too. Inspired by "Ajax" (Rev. A. J. Costain) they opened a fund for "Gunner's" widow and children, to which the public subscribed very generously.

"Gunner's" unit, *Bangor*, is in the Anglesey and North Caernarvonshire District, where that valuable phase of Toc H work, inter-unit visiting and joint activity, is hampered by the scattered position of units. Another handicap is the mutual lack of

attraction between Toc H and padres (Bangor is the only unit which boasts one!), which is rather strange considering that the *Cuernarvon Group* is doing valuable church work in organising Sunday evening services (after normal church hours) for people who do not attend any place of worship. The meetings are run on Pleasant Sunday Night lines and are very well attended. Membership in the district was greatly stimulated by a Guest-night last November and by the address of Angus Johnston, South Wales Area Secretary. Angus went on to address similar functions in the Rhyl and Mold Districts, since when North Wales has come to regard as pure illusion the belief that nothing good ever comes out of South Wales! We are indeed grateful to you, Angus. There have been "Hands across the Sea," too. *Holyhead Branch* have been week-end guests of *Monkstown Group*, Eire, and have welcomed distinguished Free State visitors. A new growth at Llangefni (Anglesey) shows excellent promise.

"As you were" pretty well sums up the position in the Vale of Conway District, although a new unit commenced some months ago at Llandudno Junction is coming along at a cracking pace. I think it is the only North Wales unit with a choir—I mean a proper choir which people will pay money to hear! "Say it with song"—which, as you know, no one has yet succeeded in preventing the Welsh from doing, God having given them determination as well as the finest voices in these Islands—must be the watchword in this District, for the District team has made itself into three sub-teams, one of which is charged with the mission of encouraging units, not to sing, but to sing the right stuff. A second sub-team makes itself responsible for maintaining contact between units, arranging bi-monthly visits, and the interchange of speakers and programmes. A third selects three books every two months, and prepares talks from them to form the basis of unit discussions. In this way are units helped to foster fellowship among their members, communion with one another, and interest in the outside world. The District team is thus fully realising its responsi-

bility of charging with fresh energy the rather old and sometimes faltering units which (not so paradoxically as it may sound) are constantly suffering from the infusion of new blood. This District, being only a brief abiding place for young men with careers in the making, lose this new blood before it can be assimilated, and have to repeat the process again and again when young men come and young men go. To paraphrase Saki: "He was a good young man as good young men go, and as good young men go he went"—often leaving the unit limping. But the District team, resilient, imaginative, wise, hands out a crutch, and the balance is soon restored.

Owing entirely to the growth of Toc H in Flintshire and Denbighshire a game of General Post has been going on in these counties. *Ruthin* returns to Rhyl District, and *Wrexham* and *Llangollen* will leave the Mold District if hopes of establishing another District embracing *Chirk* and *Oswestry* are realised. The Rhyl District, as ever, is lusty. Rhyl town with a population of only sixteen thousand odd has itself four units and a reputation for staging rousing rallies, both District and Divisional. The Executive's conference held there with the Manchester Area in October will long be remembered, for the opportunity of comparing notes with members in other areas contributed considerably to the bringing about of a clearer vision of the range and possibilities of the movement. If you have any complacency in you, Rhyl will take it out of you. Toc H is such a vital force there that it is freely talked about, and everybody knows it is only the notable things that get talked about.

A District correspondent writes: "We could tell of thrilling District nights when men of units foregathered in friendly intercourse and joy. 'To Build Bravely' seems to have been the keynote of the work, and that work has been characterised by energy and extraordinary efforts." It has fertilised a new growth at Rhuddlan and helped the new unit at Denbigh to establish itself. This District is one of those which is not slipping back in the "shuttling" advance I mentioned at the beginning, and this is one of the

reasons (apart from its central position) why it has been honoured as hosts of the Division rally to be held in October or November.

The Mold District is a comparatively young one, but already it has much to its credit. It came into existence mainly as a result of the pioneer work of the *Mold Branch*, which also did a great deal in spreading Toc H in the county of Flint. Of the eight units in the District, *Flint*, *Llangollen* and *Mold* itself are outstanding for their size, healthiness and enthusiasm. A new growth at Bagillt (near Flint) is shortly to make application for its Rushlight. The one or two weak units are able to call upon their stronger brethren for assistance. One, *Penymynydd*, is only a hamlet and suffers from the difficulties usually encountered in rural communities—limited man-power, and a lack of opportunity for corporate jobs. The District team meetings are splendidly attended, and a close supervision is maintained over the activities and programmes of the units by monthly reports. Difficulties are discussed, special activities noted, and the team is often cheered by the wide range of service covered by the units. Twice a year the District officers meet their "opposite numbers" in the units on the occasion of "Training Saturdays," every effort thus being made to increase the quality of work and to enlarge the Toc H vision. The District is fortunate in being able to maintain

jobs with a steady "drive," and to introduce variety into their programmes. Membership is on the increase, and at least two units, *Mold* and *Flint*, may soon have to start looking round for bigger premises.

Toc H has "caught on" splendidly in the South Caernarvonshire and Merionethshire District. Expansion is the watchword there. In addition to establishing themselves—they have attained Branch status—*Portmadoc* are fostering a new growth at Penrhyndeudraeth, and *Pwllheli* are encouraging one at Mynytho.

Finally a point has been made by a prominent Divisional leader that units are not showing much enthusiasm in the recruitment of Area Members—men who cannot contribute to Toc H in the form of regular attendance at weekly meetings of a unit. The Divisional Executive are giving this matter their urgent attention. He makes the further point that generally speaking the units have not achieved the success desired in attracting men of all classes in the community, so as to maintain that balance which should be one of the distinctive features of a unit. While the "mixture," so far as the religious and political views held by the members, is satisfactory, there is a marked tendency in some of the units to recruit men who, in age, occupation and social status, are very much on the same level.

## The London Toc H Drama League

The London Toc H Drama League's production of *She Passed Through Lorraine* at the Old Vic Theatre on May 1 was well up to the high standard of excellence which we have come to expect from them. Ten days earlier the same company had presented the play in Poplar Town Hall in aid of the Poplar Occupation Centre and we cannot do better than quote from the notice of it which appeared in *The Times* on the following morning:

*She Passed Through Lorraine* is an ambitious and yet a very sensible choice for amateurs. Mr. Hale has seized on a hint in the epilogue to *St. Joan* that the saint's return would not be without its embarrassments, and

though this girl is an impostor filled with the desire to be different from other women, some part of the satirical situation is created. It is an ambitious undertaking for amateurs because it is built securely on characters and ideas. There is action, but much more talk, and the better the talk the harder the actor must labour to give a performance not unworthy of it. When, as in this case, the company are unusually gifted, it is the kind of play that shows them to better advantage than a less sound and more theatrical piece.

The Old Vic Production was in aid of The Servers of the Blind League. There was a large and enthusiastic house, but it is not yet possible to say how much profit will be handed over to them.





*Guildford Cathedral, as it will be.*

## CATHEDRAL BUILDERS

The building of a Cathedral is one of the grandest and most difficult tasks to which men can set their minds and hands. The first conception of it calls for a bold mind and a heart of faith. The planning of it asks the highest imagination and most varied knowledge of the architect. The construction occupies, for years, the skilled labour of men in a great number of trades. And the work is a challenge to the whole community which it is to serve; it calls for their prayers, their continued purpose and self-sacrificing gifts.

Nineteenth-century England produced only one cathedral, the many-spired building, a little 'foreign' in style and precise in manner, which stands high above the roofs of Truro. The twentieth century has already begun to give us two—Sir Gilbert Scott's splendid building, already half-completed, which crowns the city of Liverpool and Edward Maufe's, not long begun, at Guildford.

In 1927 a part of the diocese of Winchester, grown unwieldy, was separated to form the new diocese of Guildford, with a population which has now passed half a million souls.

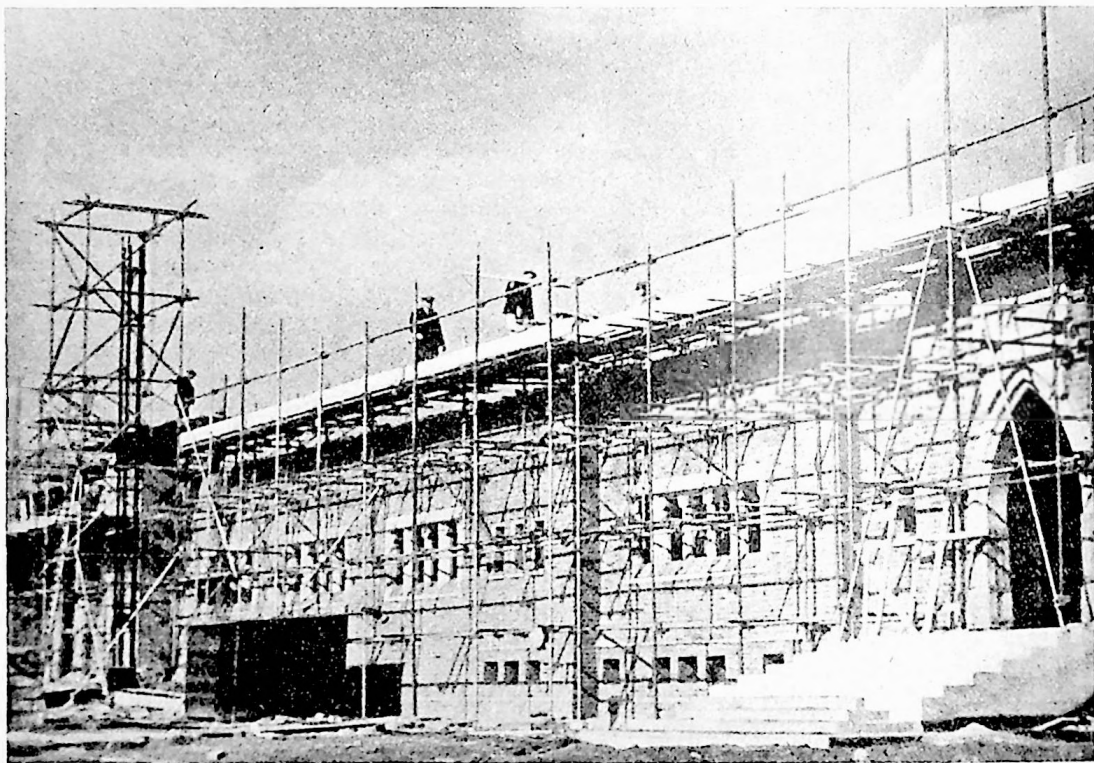
In 1933 a cross of teak-wood, 35 feet high, was set up on Stag Hill outside the town of Guildford to mark the site of the Cathedral to be. In 1936 the Archbishop of Canterbury laid the foundation stone, which rests on two other significant stones, one from Canterbury Cathedral, the mother church of England, the other from the Cathedral of Winchester, the 'mother diocese' of Guildford. And now the great building rises steadily, thanks to the enthusiasm and generous help of a whole community, on a magnificent site, the rounded hill which looks out over the steep town and surveys seven of the ten deaneries of the Diocese.

The building itself, dedicated to the Holy Spirit, will be very complete in its details. Its plan keeps the cruciform tradition of the great European churches, but its lines will express the simple strength of 'modern' architecture. Its outside walls are being built of hand-made rose-pink bricks, made from the clay of Stag Hill itself: it thus grows out of the very soil on which it stands. Already it has been hailed as "a building of genius, destined to be one of the glories of England, beautiful in proportion, simple in its massing,

supreme in its vistas and possessing undoubtedly the most functional plan of any of the English Cathedrals."

The Bishop of Guildford, John Macmillan, is a Foundation Member of Toc H and from Poperinghe days has been continually active in our family. Kentish members knew him well, when, as Bishop of Dover, he worked among them from Canterbury, and now Surrey members are glad to 'inherit' him. Some of them have been playing a small part in the work of his new cathedral. Members of Toc H in the Diocese, for instance, are making a corporate gift to the Cathedral fund, and some of them act as guides to visitors to the site. Another opportunity is offered by the 'Rally' of young people, which is held on Stag Hill, in front of the new building, every year. The first two of these Rallies, which bring a crowd of hundreds together, were stewarded by Toc H members. Last year Barclay Baron was the

speaker in the evening. This year Hubert Secretan is to be the speaker at the Rally on Wednesday, June 21. The youth organisations of the Diocese will assemble at 8 p.m.; the half-hour service will begin at 8.45 p.m., and at 9.30 there will be a "camp-fire" gathering, with community singing. It is hoped this year that Toc H members in the Guildford Diocese will not only undertake the stewarding of the Rally but be responsible for running the camp-fire sing-song. Free church members are specially invited to take part—for the Free Churches in the Diocese have welcomed the building of the Cathedral and have combined to present its stone lectern. (Those members who wish to help are asked to report for jobs at the H.Q. tent on Stag Hill as soon after 7.30 p.m. as possible. They can get all details from the organiser, a fellow-member, the Rev. J. Yorke Barber, Firgrove House, Godalming. Tel. 1101). B. B.



*Guildford Cathedral at the present day*

# THE OPEN HUSTINGS

## International Friendship

DEAR EDITOR,

After reading the article "Spades are Trumps" in the March JOURNAL, the following paragraph greatly attracted my attention:

"To encourage young people of both sexes and all classes to co-operate in non-sectarian, non-political action on behalf of other people and of the community as a whole, both within and across the national boundaries . . ."

Here in Burton-on-Trent an "International Youth Movement" has been inaugurated. Rapidly gaining ground, its aims are:—

- (1) To use the friendship of youth as the foundation of a new World Order.
- (2) To promote International Friendship by International Social Intercourse.
- (3) To remove the prejudices arising out of the Great War.
- (4) To co-operate with existing similar organizations to work as a unit.
- (5) To promote the physical and mental welfare of Youth through International Sport and Learning.
- (6) To respect the forms of Government existing in other countries without embracing any religious or political creed.

Led by Mr. G. H. Perry on the British side and by his friend Horst Löchel in Germany, the movement has established centres in both countries. It has succeeded in making contact with young people on both sides by correspondence, and through this medium of getting to know the "other man" it hopes to see its aims fulfilled. Both Mr. Perry and his friend have visited each other, and in the case of Germany, the movement has the full approval of the "Hitler-Jugend" Leader.

The young man of to-day will inherit the world of to-morrow, and it is up to him to plant that seed of goodwill now, in order that his own children may inherit a better sphere of life both in thought and in deed.

As a Toc H man of 29, I can still remember at least certain aspects of the last war. I am living in the terrible aftermath of it, and,

for the life of me, I cannot see another war settling grievances, which may, or may not, be genuine.

If this appears in print, I would say to those who are interested, and to those who are sceptical, for the sake of humanity, give it a trial, for it is, at least, an effort for future peace. For information write to Mr. G. H. Perry, 10, High Street, Burton-on-Trent, Staffs.

Yours sincerely,

Burton-on-Trent.

CYRIL ADKINS.

## Toc H and the Militia

DEAR EDITOR,

There are two aspects of the position brought about by recent events in connection with which we feel the membership should think and then act.

1. Numbers of our members will find themselves in the Militia from now onwards and during their period of training they will no doubt wish to remain on the roll of their home Branch or Group. We would, however, urge them, wherever they may be stationed, to make contact with local Toc H and to identify themselves with the local Team. It is a wonderful chance for the membership. The militiaman, coming in as a stranger, can bring news from his home town and, we hope, take back with him a grand tale of welcome and friendship and work done when he eventually returns home.

The addresses of local Groups and Branches can always be obtained by inquiry either by letter or in person to 47, Francis Street, S.W.1, or to the Area Secretary concerned.

2. To our minds all Toc H Branches and Groups situated within reasonable reach of Camps or Barracks have a great responsibility. It is for them to take the initiative in making themselves known to the large number of young men who will be gathered at such points, many perhaps feeling strange and lonely under quite new conditions. Local Toc H units have here a chance of

great service to members and non-members alike.

Methods will vary, but not, we hope, the spirit of welcome and fellowship.

One obvious way may be to make Toc H rooms available every day, with a regular roster of Toc H hosts. This, however, is only one idea, and many others, adapted to meet local needs, will no doubt occur to Toc H members on the spot. Some of these are suggested in the article on "Serving the Militiamen" which appears on page 187 of this issue.

If we can help at all, we shall be glad to do what we can, especially in passing on the experience of others to any who feel uncertain how to start.

Yours sincerely,

PAUL SLESSOR,  
DALLAS RALPH,

*Secretaries for the Services.*

47, Francis Street, S.W.1.

## Outdoor Advertising

DEAR EDITOR,

Readers of the JOURNAL will remember that last December you published an article in the "Effective Service" series on "Public Opinion and Outdoor Advertising." In the hope that there are a certain number of your readers who are anxious to help in the campaign for the control of outdoor advertising, may I draw your attention to the fact that the Lancashire Branch of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England has produced a very effective illustrated leaflet on the subject, entitled "Posters and the Public." Copies of the pamphlet can be obtained from the offices of the Branch at the County Office, Preston, price 3d. each, post free.

I would strongly recommend all who are interested to take the trouble of obtaining one or more copies from the Lancashire Branch.

Yours sincerely,

Liverpool.

GEOFFREY S. JOHNSON.

## Acknowledgments

For our pictures this month we make grateful acknowledgments to the following: For the frontispiece, which shows "A country lane, leading down to Couch's Mill, near Lerryn, Cornwall," to J. Dixon-Scott, F.R.P.S., the photographer, and to the Council for the Preservation of Rural England for lending the photograph; to *Picture Post* for permission to reproduce the picture facing page 193; to the Society of Friends Allotments Committee for the photograph on page 201; to B.E.L.R.A. for that on page 203, to Benmosshé, New York City, for the portrait of Pryor Grant on page 206; and to the Diocese of Guildford for the loan of the woodcut block on page 217 and for the photograph (a "still" from a film) on page 218.